

## PLO seeks enhanced IAEA status

VIENNA (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will take its campaign for greater recognition at the United Nations to this week's annual meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), delegates said. Sources close to the Vienna-based agency said the United States could threaten to remove its 25 per cent share of the IAEA's funding if the meeting accepts an Arab proposal to enhance the PLO's status. Deoud Barakat, the PLO's permanent observer to the United Nations in Vienna and its ambassador to Austria, told Reuters the Palestinians want the IAEA to recognise a name change from PLO to "Palestine" and to widen their status. "We are looking forward to having observer status at the governing body and technical meetings," Deoud said. The PLO already sits in on the annual general conference of the organisation, which is the watchdog of international safeguards on nuclear power and a forum for nuclear research. Sources close to the IAEA said the United States does not consider "Palestine" a state, and insists that the question of enhanced status in international organisations should be resolved by the U.N. General Assembly.

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## Iraq honours Sheikh Jaber

BAGHDAD (AP) — The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, was awarded a medal Sunday by President Saddam Hussein to thank him for his country's support during the eight-year Gulf war. Sheikh Jaber, who arrived Saturday, was awarded the highest Rafidain Medal for "his special and distinguished position... in defence of Iraq against the dangers coming from the east." During the ceremony, the Iraqi president described Kuwait as being in the forefront of Arab countries that "early on realised the dangers the war posed against Arab security." The Kuwaiti leader arrived Saturday. He was expected to leave for Paris Monday morning. The two leaders held a second round of talks Sunday to review relations and developments in the region, Baghdad television said, without elaborating. The television also said the emir reiterated Kuwait's support for Iraq which he stressed stemmed from "Kuwait's belief in a common Arab destiny." In addition to its political backing, Kuwait is believed to have given Iraq about \$10 billion in financial assistance during the Gulf war.

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## ACC summit opens in Sanaa today

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

THE HEADS of states of the four members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) meet in Sanaa, North Yemen, Monday for a three-day summit which is expected to set the ground for increased inter-Arab economic integration through a common market and tackle some of the thorniest political issues facing the Arab World.

The four leaders — His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the host — will discuss the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and Lebanon as well as the stand-off between Iran and Iraq after eight years of war.

According to reports from Sanaa, Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), may join the four leaders at some point during the summit to outline his position on the momentum in the peace process triggered

by Mubarak's 10-point proposal over Israel's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

The ACC leaders are scheduled to sign a series of agreements covering economic cooperation with special focus on trade, travel procedures for ACC nationals and interaction in education and sports. The agreements were drawn up by the heads of government of the four countries who met in Baghdad earlier this month.

The Sanaa summit, which coincides with North Yemen's celebrations of its 1962 republican revolution, is the second formal gathering of the four leaders, who met first in Baghdad in February to found the regional economic alliance and convened the first formal summit in Alexandria, Egypt, in June.

"We are giving priority to the economic aspect — a single market and an integrated economy," Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan told reporters after an ACC ministerial meeting in Baghdad in April.

"If we do not achieve economic unity we cannot achieve

any other unity. All previous Arab unity agreements failed because they did not concentrate on economic unity," he said.

The ACC was founded in Baghdad on Feb. 16. At the other end of the Arab World, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and Libya founded the Arab Maghreb Union the same day.

Arab Gulf states are grouped in an eight-year-old pact, the Gulf Cooperation Council. Syria, Lebanon, South Yemen, Sudan, Somalia, and Djibouti remain outside the three-way line-up of Arab states.

Although the main thrust of the ACC is aimed at increased economic integration, political issues have also figured high in their deliberations. North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Karim Iryani confirmed Sunday that the summit "will discuss several issues of interest to the Arab World as well as subjects of (internal ACC) cooperation" in addition to signing 16 accords in different areas as part of the four members' drive for economic unity. The summit follows two ma-

ior developments in the Arab World: Arafat has accepted an Egyptian proposal for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue to pave the way for wider peace negotiations, and a ceasefire has been called and appeared to be holding in Lebanon after six months of savage battles pitting Syrian troops and their allies against rightist forces led by army commander Michel Aoun.

On the Arab-Israeli front, Mubarak, with the added weight that Arafat has given him with his conditional acceptance of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, is expected to seek endorsement of his initiatives to break the deadlock in peace efforts from the other three leaders. All the four countries have said that they support all PLO moves aimed at liberating the occupied territories and achieving the national goals of the Palestinian people.

On the Lebanese front, the four ACC leaders have reaffirmed their endorsement of the revived efforts of a three-member Arab League committee charged with finding an end to the country's 14-year-old civil strife.

## Airport, seaport reopened after 6 months

# Beirut siege lifted

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Beirut's airport and seaport reopened Sunday after six months of war as an Arab League peace plan, coaxed life back to the shell-plattered streets of the Lebanese capital.

Guns fired into the air in celebration and people stood on balconies cheering and weeping as a cargo plane swept over the city and landed at Beirut international airport.

The Trans Mediterranean Airways (TMA) plane was the first to land since the airport, Lebanon's only commercial air link with the world, closed on March 11 at the start of artillery battles.

The airport, on the edge of the southern suburbs of west Beirut, reopened hours after a ship docked at Beirut port in east Beirut.

The port had been out of action since March 21 due to a maritime blockade imposed by Syria and its Lebanese militia, allies to stop arms reaching Lebanon's rightist enclave.

Some veteran political observers were cautious about the progress since Lebanese army chief General Michel Aoun dropped objections to the Arab League peace plan Friday.

"Peace is breaking out too fast and can all be brought to a terrible stop by one shell. We still need some hard work to sort out the real causes of this war," commented a Western diplomat. A security committee made up

of officials from the warring factions and headed by Lakhdar Al Ibrahim, an assistant secretary-general of the Arab League, met for the second time Sunday to discuss how to solidify the ceasefire and implement a peace plan.

Officials announced the day-time opening of all crossings between east Beirut and west Beirut. Only one crossing has been open sporadically during the latest outbreak of fighting.

The committee had met for the first time Saturday as some of the most ferocious artillery battles in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war came to an end.

By police count, 929 people have been killed and 2,741 wounded, nearly all of them civilians, since the bombardments began March 8 between Michel Aoun's mostly Christian army units and Syrian troops joined by allied Lebanese militias.

The airport, port and crossing reopenings prompted Sunni Muslim Grand Mufti Sheikh Muhammad Rashid Kabbani to say they were "the first step on the road to resolving the Lebanese crisis."

Carrying a cargo of clothing, the TMA jet was the first plane to land at the airport, the country's only civil aviation facility, since it closed March 12, the longest shutdown since Lebanon's civil war broke out in 1975.

At 11:37 a.m. (0837 GMT) the first passenger plane belonging to Middle East Airlines (MEA),

Lebanon's national carrier, landed on a flight from the Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah with eight passengers aboard.

They were greeted by several hundred happy airport and airline employees and bystanders.

The same MEA aircraft then took off for Larnaca, Cyprus, where it loaded 57 passengers and landed back in Beirut in mid-afternoon, said airline officials in Cyprus and Lebanon. The plane later took off for Kuwait.

"After 197 days of unemployment, I feel extremely happy that I'm working again," Salim Salameh, chairman of the airline's board, told the Associated Press. Ibrahim arrived at the airport after the first two planes landed and met briefly with the airport's general manager, Khaled Saab. After the meeting, Ibrahim told reporters he would ask other Arab airlines to resume flights to Beirut.

Thousands of refugees from months of vicious shelling continued flooding back into their war-battered city.

Police said a cargo ship docked at Beirut port in east Beirut without being targeted by fire. They had no information about the ship's flag or cargo.

Two more ships were expected to dock soon, Beirut port authorities said.

"The front lines are quiet. Nothing major has been reported since 10 p.m. (1900 GMT) Satur-

day," said a police spokesman. "It seems that both parties are abiding by the security committee's decisions."

Ibrahim announced after Saturday's meeting that blockades imposed in March by both sides would be lifted immediately. He also said that the committee agreed to "work immediately on consolidating a ceasefire" and to reopen Beirut airport.

Limited clashes in hills overlooking Beirut erupted three hours after Ibrahim's announcement but later tapered off.

Tens of thousands of refugees who had fled the carnage jammed all entrances leading into the city and the rightist enclave for the second straight day.

All but about 150,000 of Beirut's 1.5 million population had fled the shelling to safer areas in Lebanon or abroad.

Many of those flooding entrances on highways leading into west Beirut were refugees returning from the Awali River, 40 kilometres south of the capital, where they had lived for months in squalid makeshift encampments.

Ibrahim arrived in Beirut last Sunday, a day after a seven-point peace plan was announced by an Arab League committee, made up of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Morocco's King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

## Israeli minister suggests referendum on Cairo proposals

TEL AVIV (AP) — A cabinet minister from an ultra-orthodox religious party suggested Sunday that a referendum be held on whether Israel's acceptance of the Egyptian plan that has deeply divided the coalition cabinet.

Interior Minister Arye Deri of the Shas party told army radio such a vote would be "a better idea" than a collapse of the coalition of Israel's two major parties, Likud and Labour, over the initiative by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"Maybe we have finally matured enough and should hold a referendum," Deri said. "The government continues and we accept the verdict of the people. Do we want peace or not?"

Deri said he believed that after more than 21 months of the Palestinian uprising, Israelis were tired and had changed their views.

"I think that people understand that war or conflict cannot persist forever," he said.

Deri's call for a referendum comes amid a deepening rift between the major parties over Mubarak's initiative, which calls on Israel to answer the central question of whether it wants to give up occupied land in exchange for peace.

Mubarak's plan also has divided political leaders on whether the cabinet will accept two men expelled from the occupied territories as part of a Palestinian negotiating team to hold preliminary talks with Israel.

Deri's Shas party has six representatives in the 120-member parliament and helps hold the balance of power between the left and right.

Deri, in his radio interview, said it would be a mistake to reject Mubarak's plan without careful consideration, noting the Egyptian initiative does not conflict with Israel's own elections plan.

"We are facing a breakthrough in the peace process or, heaven forbid, a cancellation of the government's peace plan. If we don't work with (Mubarak's initiative), all will be lost," he said.

An advisor to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, Bassam Abu Sharif, was meanwhile quoted in Bahrain's Arabic-language daily Al-Khaleej as predicting that the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue would start "before the end of the year."

The dialogue, said Abu Sharif, would be aimed at preparing for elections in the occupied territories to lead to a "transitional stage" which in turn will lead to national (Palestinian) independence.

## Arafat calls for end to inter-Palestinian bloodshed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Masked assailants axed to death a suspected informer in the Gaza Strip Sunday as Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat appealed for a halt to inter-Arab bloodshed in the occupied territories.

Hospital officials said Rafah resident Majed Al Nawaji, 26, was attacked by assailants armed with knives and axes in the fourth killing of a suspected collaborator in three days.

An Israeli army spokesman said Nawaji was stabbed to death and police were investigating the motive.

About 115 alleged collaborators have been reportedly killed by fellow Palestinians during the 21-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation, many of them in Rafah.

Attacks have increased sharply in the past several months despite

appeals from the underground leadership of the uprising and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders in Tunis.

Arafat, in a handwritten letter dated Aug. 28 which reached the Gaza Strip Sunday, urged Palestinians to "be a melting pot and halt the internal fighting."

The letter was addressed to jailed members of Fatah, the PLO's main wing, and Hamas, the Islamic resistance movement. "I direct you and urge you to be united in one heart... to have freedom of expression without exaggeration... we must be a melting pot and halt the internal fighting," the letter said.

One suspected collaborator was strangled at the weekend in the Ketziot prison camp for uprising activists.

Palestinian sources said tension has run high recently between PLO and Hamas activists in the

prison, and clashes have erupted between them.

Israeli police said a petrol bomb was hurled at a police car near Damascus gate in occupied Jerusalem, causing no damage or injuries. An orthodox Jew was stabbed at the gate on Friday by a Palestinian.

In the West Bank town of Beit Sahour, tax officials confiscated property for the fourth day to punish residents who have boycotted taxes in protest against the occupation.

Soldiers and taxmen entered houses and seized television sets and video recorders, witnesses said.

Israeli army radio said the West Bank "civil administration" reopened 20 schools closed for "disturbances" over the past several weeks. West Bank schools opened in July after being closed most of the year.

## Mubarak to name Palestinian delegation during U.S. visit

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will take to Washington next week the names of Palestinians who could talk peace with Israel, the Washington Post reported Sunday.

In an interview with the newspaper's Cairo-based correspondent, Mubarak also said he was confident Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat would accept Egypt's 10-point proposals for elections in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

"He will accept them. He has the flexibility," Mubarak said in response to concerns that Arafat has so far not publicly endorsed the Egyptian ideas.

Asked if he would tell U.S. President George Bush and Israeli leaders of Arafat's commitment, Mubarak was quoted as saying: "I can say so."

Mubarak put forward his 10 points in response to Israel's proposal for elections in the occupied territories to choose Palestinian representatives who would discuss limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israeli proposals were found inadequate by Palestinians within the occupied territories and by the PLO. Mubarak's ideas try to break the deadlock by providing for Palestinian representatives to negotiate self-determination on the basis of land-for-peace.

The Egyptian ideas have deeply divided Israel's coalition government linking the Labour Party and rightist Likud bloc led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mubarak, who has called for face-to-face talks between Palestinians and Israelis, told the Washington Post the names of Palestinians he was taking to Washington were acceptable to

Arafat as negotiators but would not be identified as affiliated with the PLO.

He would not disclose the names.

During his visit to New York and Washington, starting next Thursday, the 16-year-old Egyptian leader will meet President Bush as well as Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Labour leader Shimon Peres.

"Let the Israelis, as a state, as a government, say they accept these points in principle, while there may be some points they don't accept," he was reported as saying.

"Let these points be discussed in the dialogue — all of them sit at the table and put their cards down and understand each other as a preparation for the elections."

Mubarak added: "It's not a negotiating table. It's a dia-

logue. There is a great difference."

In the interview, Mubarak also urged the United States not to oppose an application to Arafat for a visa to attend the U.N. General Assembly debate in New York on the Palestinian issue.

Responding to Israeli criticism that he refuses contact with Shamir, Mubarak said he had sent the Israeli prime minister several messages in recent months but the response had not been good.

Mubarak told the Washington Post he was aware of a backlash in Israel over his remarks calling on the Israeli electorate to press Shamir to accept a new peace plan.

"Look," he was quoted as saying, "I didn't mean to speak with the people against Shamir. I am not against Shamir... I never undermine anybody. I am just very frank and open."

## Fahd reaffirms tough stand against saboteurs

NICOSIA (Agencies) — King Fahd warned Sunday that anyone trying to sabotage the annual pilgrimage to the Holy City of Mecca would be punished according to God's law with death.

The kingdom will implement the law of God on anyone whose soul permits him to disrupt security and harm pilgrims," the king told newspaper editors in a letter.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said he was responding to messages of support after the execution Thursday of 16 Kuwaitis, including 10 of Iranian origin, convicted of planting bombs during the pilgrimage last July.

SPA said princes, clergymen and officials were still sending messages of gratitude to the king's brother, Interior Minister Prince Nayef, congratulating him on implementing "the just law of God against the traitor criminals."

Saudi Arabia, which imposes Islamic Sharia laws, added terrorism and sabotage to its list of capital crimes in 1988. Four nationals with alleged Iranian links were beheaded last Sept. 30 for attempting to blow up an oil facility.

In Beirut, a group describing itself as a Saudi Arabian branch of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) vowed to avenge those executed.

In Iran, the newspaper Abrar criticised those advocating better

ties between Tehran and Riyadh, saying relations would "be restored as long as the ruling Saudi government stays in power."

In Kuwait, the local press reported without comment that nine Kuwaitis acquitted of involvement in the Mecca bombings had returned home. The emirate has not reacted officially to Thursday's executions.

One of those beheaded said on Saudi television before his execution that he had received explosives from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait. Tehran denied the allegation.

Iran's news agency reported that police broke up a demonstration Sunday at the Saudi Arabian embassy in Kuwait by relatives protesting the execution in Saudi Arabia.

Sources in Kuwait reached by telephone said groups gathered in front of the Saudi Arabian embassy on Gulf Street, but were quickly dispersed by police. They gave no further details and insisted on anonymity.

The executions marked a new crisis in Iranian-Saudi relations. The new wave of words from Tehran followed statements by so-called pragmatists in Tehran, led by the newly-elected President Hashemi Rafsanjani, that relations with the kingdom should be patched up. These moves are opposed by Iranian radicals.

## Superpowers sign pacts, set summit

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union have signed a half-dozen accords and cleared a major roadblock to a long-range nuclear weapons treaty, then capped the day with the announcement that a superpower summit will be held in 1990.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who spent the weekend in talks with Secretary of State James Baker, said Saturday that the summit between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev would be held in spring or early summer.

Shevardnadze also announced a key concession from Moscow to move ahead towards a long-range weapons agreement despite its objections to the United States' strategic defence initiative (SDI) peace-based anti-missile programme.

First official word of the summit plans came from Bush, who informed reporters on a golf course near his vacation home in Maine after taking a telephone call from Baker.

Bush spoke more than 1,600 kilometres from the rocky mountain resort where Shevardnadze and Baker reached agreement on a chemical weapons accord and several other points.

The agreements include: — Exchange of data on chemical weapons by the end of the year and visits by inspectors of the other side to stockpiles and plants by June 30. In a second phase, there would be more intensive on-site inspections of the submitted data.

An "umbrella agreement" in principle that there should be verification of missile plants and information exchanged even before a treaty to slash long-range nuclear weapons is completed. — Advance notification to the other side of exercises with long-range bombers and other strategic weapons.

— A ceiling of 10 on launchers carrying mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles at any one base. Some of the launchers would be exposed for monitoring.

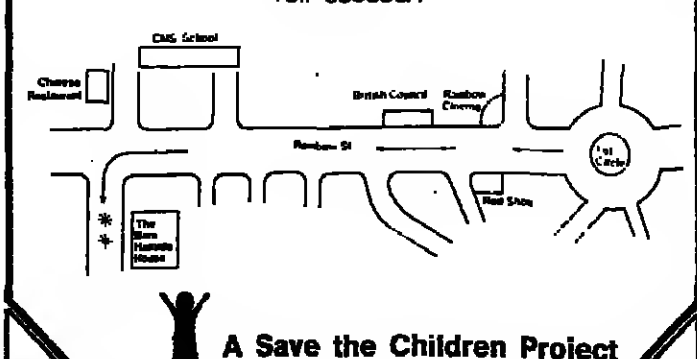
— Cooperating to enhance the power of the international court of justice to settle disputes.

— Two agreements to facilitate movement across the Bering straits of Eskimos in Alaska and Eskimos in Siberia for visits.

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## Morocco has no political prisoners — King Hassan

**RABAT (R)** — King Hassan has said that Morocco held no political prisoners, but only traitors who would be lynched if they were released.

"These traitors have said and written that the (Western) Sahara is not Moroccan," he told a group of Spanish journalists before a state visit to Spain starting Sunday.

"My duty as guardian of territorial integrity and chief of the armed forces obliges me to put them under shelter and not threaten public order because if released they would tomorrow I assure you they would be lynched."

Morocco has been fighting Polisarin guerrillas demanding independence for the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara for more than 13 years.

"I can tell you that I have no political prisoners," King Hassan said in the interview, carried by the Moroccan news agency (MAP).

He said dozens of similar prisoners had been freed after admitting in writing they had been wrong. But a stubborn hard core refused to do so and would remain in jail until they "repented and recognised in writing the Sahara is Moroccan."

Human rights groups have been campaigning on behalf of six hunger strikers demanding status as political prisoners and better jail conditions. They have also claimed the security services used torture.

The campaign has angered the government which has begun legal action against two opposition newspaper editors who published statements by the Moroccan League and Association of Human Rights saying four people died in detention in August.

King Hassan said the state had a duty to punish falsehood and the editors of the newspapers in question faced charges because they had written that common criminals were political prisoners.

King Hassan did not rule out a second meeting with Polisario guerrillas.

"If it is in the interest of my country that I accord a second, or a third or even a fourth, audience to members of the 'Polisario,' I stress audience, then of course I will respond to my obligations," the MAP quoted him as saying.

"It is necessary to be clear about things. It would only be an audience, not a negotiation," he said. "I have nothing to give 'Polisario' because nothing belongs to me. Moroccan land belongs to all the Moroccans."

The king received a Polisarin delegation in January for the first direct talks in 13 years of fighting over the former Spanish colony.

He has since declined to meet Polisario leaders for a second time, saying the matter is in the



King Hassan

hands of the United Nations which is trying to organise a self-determination referendum in the sparsely-populated, barren territory.

King Hassan said in the interview he would prefer not to have a referendum.

"Personally, I would wish that this referendum does not take place because it is the same family, those who are at home and those who are on the other side are brothers, cousins, parents... I do not want to divide families," he said.

Meanwhile, the Polisario said in a statement telexed to Reuters that several dozen people demonstrated outside the Moroccan embassy in Madrid for two hours Friday evening carrying pictures of missing people.

## Jailed Hamas leader does not support Egyptian peace plan

**TEL AVIV (R)** — The jailed leader of the Islamic resistance movement Hamas said Saturday that he does not support Israel's election plan for the occupied territories or Egypt's 10 proposals on the scheme.

"I'm not for or against," Sheikh Ahmad Yassin told Israel's Arabic television in an unprecedented interview in the yard of his Israeli prison.

Yassin said while the Palestinians believe in democracy, he cannot support elections under the present circumstances. He said Israel, not the Arabs, must now make concessions.

Hamas has widespread support in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip where it has directed a 21-month-long revolt against Israeli rule along with the PLO-backed National Unified Leadership of the uprising.

Israeli troops arrested the

wheelchair-bound Yassin, 52, along with 250 Hamas supporters, all residents of the Gaza Strip, on May 22. They were accused of attacking Israeli targets and killing suspected Palestinian collaborators.

Palestinian sources said Yassin was interviewed because rumours that he was dying have been circulating in the past week. But the Hamas leader, paralysed from the neck down since childhood, said that he was being adequately treated in prison.

He said he founded Hamas at the beginning of the uprising in December 1987 and that it was organised into political and military branches.

Yassin named several prominent Palestinians as members of Hamas, but said they had already been arrested by Israel.

Palestinian sources told Reuters they saw nothing new in the

Yassin interview. But that they viewed it as a humiliation of a formerly strong man.

Under the Israeli peace initiative, Palestinians in the occupied territories would elect a delegation to negotiate an interim autonomy arrangement with Israel. Three years later negotiations would open on a final settlement.

Egypt's ten points support Israel's initiative but demand East Jerusalem Arabs be allowed to vote, that Israel support the principle of territories for peace, and that deported Palestinians be allowed on the Palestinian negotiating team.

Egypt's initiative has split Israel's coalition government. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Party is adamantly opposed to it, while Deputy Premier Shimon Peres' Labour Party has embraced it wholeheartedly.

## 9 Kuwaiti Shi'ites acquitted of Mecca bombing return home

**KUWAIT (R)** — Nine Kuwaiti Shi'ite Muslims acquitted on charges of involvement in bombings in Mecca for which 16 of their compatriots were beheaded, have returned home from Saudi Arabia, local newspapers reported Sunday.

The newspapers reported their return without comment. There has been no official reaction by the emirate to the execution of its nationals by Saudi Arabia last Thursday.

They were publicly beheaded by sword in Mecca for planting three bombs in the holy city during the annual Muslim pilgrimage last July.

Four other Kuwaitis were given jail sentences with up to 1,500 lashes.

A Pakistani pilgrim died and 16 people were wounded when two bombs exploded as tens of thousands were leaving the Grand Mosque, Islam's holiest shrine.

One of the defendants said on Saudi television before his execution that he had received explosives from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait.

Meanwhile Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned Saudi Arabia Saturday it would reap the consequences of executing the 16 Kuwaitis.

The Iranian News Agency (IRNA) quoted Khamenei as calling the sentences imposed for bombings during the Muslim Haj, in Mecca, "another crime committed by the Al-Saud Dynasty."

"The consequences of this crime will undoubtedly befall the Al Saud," he told a group of Kuwaiti theological students.

"The group were martyred because of their sympathy with the Islamic revolution and not because of the fictitious charges raised against them," Khamenei said.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the spiritual leader as saying tough action would not prevent Muslims from advocating and supporting Iran and its Islamic revolution.

A Foreign Ministry statement earlier denied any Iranian involvement in the July bombings. "Iran is convinced that the recent explosions in the sanctuary

of divine peace were carried out by mercenaries working for the Saudi regime," Tehran Radio quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying.

The statement was the first official reaction from Tehran to televised confessions by two of the bombers implicating the Iranian embassy in Kuwait.

The explosions killed a Pakistani pilgrim and injured 16 other people during the annual pilgrimage in July.

The English-language Iranian daily Kayhan International said in an editorial the executions were intended to divert attention from what it said was the impending death of King Fahd.

The paper said the king had kidney cancer and turmoil was expected after his death.

Another Iranian newspaper, Jomhuri Islami, accused the Saudi government of having planted bombs itself in a bid to discredit Muslim revolutionaries.

"If it was not so, the said persons would have been tried openly," said the paper, quoted by the IRNA.

## Iran fears Islamic extremists blew up French plane, U.K. paper

**LONDON (AP)** — Iran fears that Islamic extremists blew up a French airliner over the African desert last week to sabotage President Hashemi Rafsanjani's overtures toward the West which could lead to the release of Western hostages, the Sunday Times of London reported.

The newspaper said in a report from Paris the Iranian government fears Islamic extremists blew up the DC-10 and later posed as Islamic Jihad, the pro-Iranian, Shi'ite Muslim group, when they claimed responsibility.

All 171 passengers and crewmembers on UTA flight 772 en route from Brazzaville, Congo, to Paris died when the plane exploded Tuesday over eastern Niger.

The Sunday Times quoted unidentified sources close to the Iranian government as saying Iran wants the release of all 16 Western hostages in Lebanon. It said Iran also proposes freeing an Israeli copilot captured three years ago.

In return, Iran seeks the release of Sheikh Abdul Karim

Obeid, captured by Israeli commandos in July and 500 Lebanese and Palestinians held by Israel, and the release of billions of dollars of assets frozen in the United States, the newspaper said.

Leaders of 15 pro-Iranian and Syrian organisations were meeting in Tehran during the weekend to hear details of Rafsanjani's new policies toward the West, the Sunday Times said. The Iranian government plans to present the package to the United States this week, it said.

## Taba hotel struggles for Egyptian image

By Nefta Sammakia  
The Associated Press

**CAIRO** — International arbitration a year ago resolved the last border dispute between Egypt and Israel, a squabble over a 250-acre (1-square-kilometre) strip of beach and the plush hotel on it.

Israel lost, but that's not immediately apparent from looking at the guests.

Six months after the Jewish state ceded Taba to Egypt, the former Aviya-Sonesta Beach Hotel is struggling to develop an Egyptian image while catering to a clientele that is mainly Israeli.

"It's still the same hotel," said Joe Sultan, the general manager through successive owners and management chains. Except, he said, "instead of a waiter called Moshe, we now have Mousa."

The names are Hebrew and Arabic versions of the same name, Moshe.

Opened in 1982 by Egyptian-Israeli builder Eli Papouchado, the 10-storey, 327-room hotel boasts panoramic views of the pristine Gulf of Aqaba and Sinai's rugged

mountains. It quickly became a favourite among Israelis, who popped across the border from Eilat in vans, buses and boats.

Although Taba had been in dispute since early 1982, when Israel refused to return it with the rest of Sinai under terms of a 1979 peace agreement, Israelis nonetheless were shocked last Sept. 29 to find the place no longer belonged to them. International arbitrators had ruled after 18 months that Egyptian claims prevailed.

Long months of haggling followed over special facilities for Israeli tourists and a \$37-million compensation in Papouchado. Egypt finally raised its flag over Taba on March 15 and Egyptian nationalists marched into the hotel, Taba's only significant structure, to claim their jobs.

Outside, Israeli employees burned street barricades of automobile tyres and demonstrated to protect their uncertain future. Almost 280 of the 306 Israeli workers laid March have since been laid off, but the hotel still employs people from both countries.

Sultan said in a telephone interview it's become a model

of co-existence. "This is beautiful," he said. "I wish the governments would take an example from the harmony."

Many details remained unsettled and confusion reigned at the turnover in March, but much of that has dissipated as technical problems have been ironed out.

Israelis have stayed away in the first weeks, and the hotel's occupancy rate plunged from better than 90 per cent to around 40 per cent. Sultan said that much of the lost ground was recovered by August.

Hotel shop owners, mostly Israelis, feared working under Egypt's more stringent import controls, but they've settled into their new state of affairs. After selling their last imported swimmer to eager Egyptian buyers, for instance, they now deal only in local goods.

Prices on menus are being changed slowly to Egyptian pounds from Israeli shekels and U.S. dollars.

Most vegetables and other foods are trucked in from Nuweiba, 45 miles (72 kilometres) to the south, and from other parts of Egypt,

avoiding heavy taxes on imports from much closer Israeli port Eilat.

Taba, at the northern tip of the Gulf of Aqaba 350 kilometres east of Cairo, was a wasteland at the end of a desert wast when Israel occupied Sinai in the 1967 Middle East war. Thus, Egypt has no infrastructure there to support a facility as large as the hotel and must buy water, electricity and some goods from Israel. Taba's telephone lines are linked through Israel.

And because there is no housing at Taba other than the hotel, Egyptian employees still must travel 144 kilometres a day to and from Nuweiba to go to work.

The 28 Israeli employees, 10 per cent of the 285-person staff to comply with Egyptian law limiting foreign employment, commute from Eilat next door. They work in positions where Hebrew is necessary to communicate with patrons.

"They are in food and beverage departments, at the front desk," said the Egyptian personnel manager, Aly Abdul Aziz. "Most of our clients, 85 per cent of them, are Israelis."

He said Israeli singers and two belly dancers still perform but with fewer Hebrew songs.

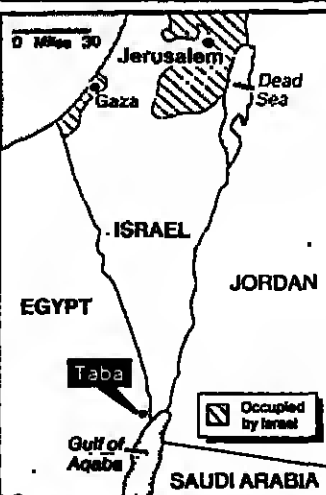
Until the final arbitration, Taba was a persistent irritant in relations between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

President Hosni Mubarak presided over a symbolic raising of Egypt's flag at Taba on March 22, a week after it became Egyptian property, and declared the day a public holiday.

But despite the national pride engendered by the recovery, Egyptians didn't flock to the remote beach strip or show the same enthusiasm their neighbour did for the hotel, its swimming pool and central bar.

One reason may have been the room rates. At \$150 a night, very few Egyptians could afford it. Even the current reduced rate of \$54 a night is high for a country with an average monthly take-home pay \$40.

In addition, Egyptians remain reluctant to warm up to Israelis, unable or unwilling to ignore the four wars they fought in Israel's first 30 years and the technical state of war



remaining between Israel and the other Arabs.

With patronage consistently a fraction of what it was, Papouchado severed connections with the hotel, where he had acted as operator of the Sonesta franchise. The owners, Egyptian public-sector banks and companies including the national airline Egyptian, advertised for new management and chose Hilton International, which made the hotel the Taba Hilton on Sept. 1.

Fuad Sultan, the tourism minister, said plans are under way to promote Taba worldwide as a warm-weather resort and to equip a nearby landing strip for large airplanes.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### 'Persons unknown' charged for bombing

**PARIS (R)** — France has accused "persons unknown" of bombing a French DC-10 airliner which exploded over the Sahara desert, killing all 170 people on board. A French Justice Ministry spokesman said charges were being brought for murder and destroying an aircraft with explosives. He said the decision was prompted by "certain observations made at the scene of the crash." The public prosecutor's office opened a criminal investigation Saturday into the bombing of the Union Des Transports Aeriens (UTA) plane, destroyed over Niger last Tuesday on flight from Brazzaville in the Congo to Paris. The public prosecutor's decision made clear there was no longer any doubt that flight UT 772 was deliberately destroyed. In Beirut, a statement said to have been signed by a previously unknown group calling itself the clandestine Chadian Resistance claimed responsibility for planting the bomb. "The struggle will continue until all colonial military troops leave Africa," said the statement, delivered to a Western news agency and typed in French with several spelling mistakes. The French Foreign Ministry said it had never heard of the group and was unsure how seriously to treat the call. Two telephone callers have also claimed responsibility on behalf of the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad group, but the French Foreign Ministry doubts the authenticity of the calls. A highly-placed government source has confirmed a magazine report that French agents believed a Shi'ite guerrilla network crippled by arrests in Europe was rebasing in West Africa. Eight passengers who left the D-10 during its stopover in N'Djamena have been cleared as suspects after questioning by Chadian police, a UTA spokesman said Saturday.

### Mahdi and others to remain imprisoned

**KHARTOUM (AP)** — A senior military officer has said that ousted Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi and more than 20 other former politicians are guilty of "political corruption" and said they will remain imprisoned indefinitely. Col. Suleiman Mohammed Suleiman, spokesman for the 15-member military junta which overthrew Mahdi on June 30, was quoted by the official newspaper Al Sudan Al Hadith or the Modern Sudan as saying that the arrested politicians will remain in detention to "maintain security." "It will not be in the interest to release these politicians," Suleiman said. "Although no charge of financial and administrative corruption were filed against them, those politicians have committed political corruption." A handful of the former politicians have already been tried for financial corruption. Mahdi and other senior politicians were arrested after the military coup that ousted them. Suleiman said that the military government was not thinking of lifting the current state of emergency and the nighttime curfew, adding that they "had helped in maintaining law and order."

### Morocco seizes 362 tonnes of drugs

**TANGIER, Morocco (R)** — Moroccan security forces seized more than 362 tonnes of cannabis and hashish in July and August, the Moroccan News Agency (MAP) reported Saturday. It said 102 Moroccan traffickers had been arrested in the raids in the northern provinces of Tangier, Tetouan, Chefchaouen and Larache where most of Morocco's cannabis is grown. Three light vehicles and one lorry were also confiscated, it said. MAP added that in the first six months of the year, Tangier police alone had seized almost 12 tonnes of cannabis and 2.3 tonnes of hashish. They also arrested 187 dealers. Morocco — one of Western Europe's main suppliers of cannabis — says it is making a major effort to halt drug production and smuggling in line with international agreements. In an interview with Spanish television Thursday, King Hassan said the problem should be tackled from the side of the purchaser. "It is not producer who should be punished, but the consumer. If there were no consumers, there would be no producers," he said.

### Israeli envoy offered help to Klein

**ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Leaders of Senegal and Mauritania may hold talks in Cairo to resolve differences which pushed them into war early this year, according to a report. Hassan Jadhuaq, head of the African Department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, was quoted by the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Itihad as saying "the two neighbours appeared inclined to resolve their problems." "The presidents of Mauritania and Senegal may meet if matters develop, and Cairo welcomes such a meeting and is ready to host it," Jadhuaq said. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, is mediating between the two African states. Mubarak plans to meet six African foreign ministers grouped in an ad hoc mediation committee during the U.N. General Assembly in New York. Jadhuaq said, "He will present guidelines that will form the groundwork for a solution," he added.

### Israeli envoy offered help to Klein

**TEL AVIV (R)** — An Israeli reserve officer alleged to have trained assassins for Colombian drug barons said a member of Israel's embassy staff in Colombia offered to help him escape that country, Israeli television said Saturday. Reserve Lieutenant-Colonel Yair Klein, head of the Hod Hahani security firm, said Israeli embassy security officer Yossi Biran made the offer after Colombian newspapers reported Israelis were training the assassins, the television said. Israel's Foreign Ministry categorically denied Klein's allegation. Spokesman Yossi Amichud said that after a formal investigation the ministry found Klein's claim unfounded, the television said. Klein said he met Biran twice. At the first meeting, Biran warned him that his work with Colombian cattle farmers touched on security issues. At the second meeting, Biran offered to spirit Klein out of the country for several thousand dollars. Klein said he eventually left Colombia without Biran's help and paid him no money.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

18:30 ..... Koran  
18:30 ..... Programme review  
18:45 ..... Children programmes  
17:00 ..... Flying Doctors  
18:00 ..... News summary in Arabic  
18:05 ..... Local series  
19:15 ..... Local programme  
19:40 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Programme review  
21:40 ..... Local programmes  
23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:10 ..... Les Pique Assties  
18:30 ..... Documentary  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Weekly Sport magazine  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Varieties  
20:30 ..... Carol Burnett  
21:10 ..... The Boat  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Killer Exposed

### PRAYER TIMES

05:43 ..... Fajr  
06:27 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
12:27 ..... Dhuhur  
15:54 ..... Asr  
18:34 ..... Maghrib  
19:51 ..... 'Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweidich Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrasanta Church Tel. 623366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 626543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261  
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751  
Assam International Church Tel. 685326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
A slight drop in temperature is expected and winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Bahjat Badr ..... 849362  
Dr. Mohammad Al 'Ajem ..... 894184  
Dr. Mohammad 'Azam ..... 642666  
Dr. Youssef Al Hourani ..... 714622  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asema pharmacy ..... 637555  
Nairukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yaacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
IRBID:  
Dr. Abdul Karim Al 'Abwa ..... (—)  
Al Shuraa' pharmacy ..... 985238

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 630441  
Rescue ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661776  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615

### HOSPITALS

Electric Power ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 06-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 06-53200  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111  
AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khadija Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816  
Al-Jah Mawardi, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jahil Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 661714  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 661714  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6672719  
Al-Musheir Hospital ..... 6617767  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 661646  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 77511/26  
Army, Marita ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 60224050  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)991071  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (05)3200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

### (Terminal 1)

18:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Sam'a (RJ)  
18:15 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
18:45 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Larissa (RJ)  
11:50 ..... Dhakara, Kuwait (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
18:45 ..... Vienna, Istanbul (RJ)  
19:18 ..... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
19:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 ..... Dubai (EK)  
16:10 ..... Sam'a (LH)  
12:00 ..... Istanbul, Ankara (TK)  
12:20 ..... Cairo (MS)  
13:25 ..... Bahrain (GF)  
14:30 ..... Kuwait (KU)  
18:25 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
06:15 ..... Paris (AF)  
06:15 ..... Baghdad (AF)

### DEPARTURES

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

### (Terminal 1)

08:00 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Bucharest (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Rome (AF)  
12:15 ..... Vienna, Montreal, New York (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
20:30 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
20:40 ..... Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
20:45 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
21:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (add.) (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
21:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 ..... London (BA)  
18:30 ..... Dubai (EK)  
11:10 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
14:00 ..... Ankara, Istanbul (TK)  
14:05 ..... Cairo (MS)  
14:20 ..... Bahrain, Sharjah (GF)

### MARKET PRICES

### Upstater price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden) ..... 520 / 480  
Apple (red) ..... 580 / 330  
Banana (Mukhammad) ..... 400 / 350  
Beans ..... 540 / 480  
Cabbage ..... 280 / 220  
Cauliflower ..... 250 / 200  
Corn ..... 180 / 140  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 220 / 180  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 300 / 260  
Dates ..... 420 / 350  
Eggplant ..... 180 / 120  
Fig ..... 400 / 350  
Garlic ..... 900 / 800  
Grapefruit ..... 270 / 200  
Grapes (small) ..... 300 / 220  
Grapes (red) ..... 280 / 220  
Guava ..... 370 / 300  
Lemon ..... 220 / 160  
Mallow ..... 90 / 60  
Marrow (large) ..... 200 / 150  
Marrow (small) ..... 420 / 350  
Okra ..... 620 / 530  
Onion (dry



## Bridges to be closed on Oct. 1 and Oct. 9

AMMAN (J.T.) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad Bridges across the River Jordan will be closed to traffic for those travelling to the occupied West Bank Sunday, Oct. 1, 1989, and Monday Oct. 9, 1989 according to a statement by the Public Security Department (PSD) Sunday.

The statement said Sunday, Oct. 8, the bridges will open from eight in the morning and until 12 noon and that Fridays falling on 29.9.1989, 13.10.1989 and 20.10.1989 only 250 travellers will be allowed to cross into the West Bank under emergency cases.

No reason for the arrangements was given by the PSD which appealed to all travellers to refrain from making their trips to the occupied lands on the aforementioned Fridays to allow for only emergency cases to be handled at the bridge terminals.

## Jordan to attend meetings of Arab ministers' councils

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is taking part in the Arab Ministers of Youth and Sports Council meeting which is due to be held in Cairo on Oct. 14, according to a Cabinet statement here Sunday.

The statement said also that Jordan will take part in a meeting by ministers of culture due to be held in Rabat, Morocco, on Oct. 10.

The Cabinet delegated Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali to lead Jordan's delegation to the Rabat meeting. The council also delegated Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Khamash to lead Jordan's delegation to the Arab Ministers of Transport Council due to be held in Baghdad on Oct. 18.

According to the statement, the government is sending a delegation led by the Ministry of Agriculture's secretary general, Sami Sumra, to attend the annual conference of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome on Oct. 11.

The Cabinet also set up a Jordanian delegation to attend the annual meeting of the World Bank which is due to open in Washington Tuesday. Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz will lead the delegation to the two-day meeting.

## N. Yemenis can visit without prior approval

AMMAN (Petra) — North Yemeni nationals visiting Jordan will be exempted from acquiring prior approval for the visit and will not be required to pay any residence fees during their stay in the Kingdom, according to a government announcement here Sunday.

The announcement said that the decision was taken in implementation of directives by the heads of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries which group Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq.

The decision was taken by deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masadeh who attended the meetings in

Baghdad. Earlier, the government decided to exempt nationals from Egypt and Iraq from any prior approval for visits to Jordan in the course of implementing resolutions that aim to enhance cooperation among ACC members.

Meanwhile, it was announced in the North Yemeni capital that the heads of labour federations in the ACC countries will hold a meeting in Sanaa in December to discuss cooperation in labour union work and labour federation's contributions to the socio-economic development of the four ACC countries.



University hosts exhibition on Nehru's life

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition depicting the life and work of the late Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was opened at the University of Jordan Sunday.

The exhibition set up to mark Nehru's 100th birthday anniversary displays 80 photographs featuring the late premier throughout the various stages of his life and at the time of India's independence, and his meetings with Arab leaders. The week-long exhibition has been organised in cooperation with the embassy of India in Amman and within the framework of Jordanian-Indian cultural and educational cooperation. Several members of the diplomatic missions in Jordan including the Indian ambassador were present at the ceremony which was opened by President Mahmoud Al Samra.

## Jordanian troupes to perform at Babylon Festival in Iraq

AMMAN (Agencies) — Jordan will take part in the international Babylon Arts Festival which began Friday in the ancient Iraqi city.

An announcement here said that the Kingdom will be represented by a national folklore troupe affiliated to the Ministry of Culture which was set up here last year.

It will be the first trip by the troupe abroad to present Jordanian folk performances, the statement noted.

It said that the troupe, which groups 15 young men and women, will present dakhkhe national dance and traditional songs which are normally presented at Jordanian weddings in all parts of the country.

The Ministry of Culture has also nominated Al Fubeis Folk Troupe to take part in the Babylon Festival.

The ancient city of Babylon, partially rebuilt by President Saddam Hussein, is echoing again to the sound of music and drama in the cultural festival which symbolises both the golden age of Iraq's history and the country's post-war reconstruction.

The festival opened Friday night with scores of Iraqi dancers leaping across a stage in the courtyard of the restored palace of King Nebuchadnezzar II, who ruled Babylon at the height of its glory 8,000 years ago.

The ballet, based on Babylonian music, told the story of the legendary city that was the centre of an empire in ancient Mesopotamia, or land between the rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris.

Before an audience of 1,500.

The 150 singers and dancers re-counted how Babylon first rose on the banks of the Euphrates in the 18th Century B.C. during the Amorite Dynasty, achieved splendor under Nebuchadnezzar in the 6th Century B.C. and was destroyed 200 years later by the Persians.

Now, Iraqis boast, Babylon has risen again under Saddam.

"Let the bells of victory toll. Babylon is rising again under glorious leader Saddam Hussein," chanted the singers and dancers, dressed in colourful costumes in the ancient Babylonian style.

Over the next two weeks, up to 150,000 people are expected to visit Babylon, 85 kilometres south of Baghdad, to watch Soviet ballet dancers, French classics, Chinese acrobats, Spanish Flamenco troupes and other artists from about 40 countries.

The opening performance featured songs written 6,000 years ago, and deciphered from ancient stone tablets.

Munir Bashir, the festival's chief director, said the ancient music was played primarily on harps, some of which have been found in Babylon's ruins.

He and other Iraqi researchers spent months unravelling the notations on the stone tablets to reproduce the primitive tunes.

Bashir, 59, is director of music at the Ministry of Information and Culture and is the world's most renowned virtuoso of the oud, an Arabic stringed instrument that was the forebear of the lute.

Information Minister Latif Nis-

sayif Jassim officially opened the festival "on behalf of President Saddam Hussein, builder of Iraq and Babylon... city of glory and civilization."

Saddam visited the city Friday and inspected preparations for the festival. He opened new facilities built around the ancient city, including restaurants, guest houses, modern markets and boutiques, part of a major tourist complex being built around the resurrected Babylon.

The red mud-brick monuments such as Nebuchadnezzar's southern palace, the temples and the fortress-like Ishtar Gate at the entrance to the city will also serve as a backdrop for fringe activities that include poetry recitals, plays and art exhibitions.

## NRA begins implementing new phase of oil exploration strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) is embarking on a new phase of work and activities in the course of implementing its national oil exploration strategy in the Kingdom and will encourage foreign oil companies to help Jordan find oil and natural gas, NRA Director General Kamal Jreisat announced Sunday.

The attraction of the foreign oil companies to prospect for oil here will be the first step in the coming stage which also entails continued oil exploration programmes by the NRA teams in various parts of Jordan, Jreisat noted in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said that NRA will maintain an open door policy with the foreign oil companies, providing them with all necessary information collected by the NRA to help them find oil, and it will also create an atmosphere of competitiveness among the foreign oil companies in the Kingdom.

Jreisat said the coming NRA programme will include the following: Developing the Rishah Gas Fields near the Iraqi border, conducting further tests to determine the amount of oil reserves in the Sirhan region, increasing oil production from the Hamzeh well, maintaining oil exploration work by NRA teams, creating an independent national oil company, and expanding NRA's role and control over all companies exploring for oil in the Kingdom.

An Austrian firm last March signed an 18-month contract with the NRA to drill for oil in the eastern part of Jordan.

The Austrian mineral oil company has agreed with the NRA to explore a 5,500 square kilometres bloc in the Sirhan region, in eastern Jordan, to carry out 700 kilometres of seismic survey, to process 150 kilometres already executed by the NRA and to do geological, geophysical and geochemical studies.

The company was expected to spend about \$2 million on drilling, according to the agreement.

Jreisat said in his statement to Petra that there were good indications and prospects for finding oil in Jordan in commercial quantities because the country abounds with oil shale and large

amounts of natural gas, mostly at Al Rishah region, and the presence of asphalt near the Dead Sea.

Referring to the long history of oil exploration in Jordan, Jreisat said that the Kingdom started prospecting for oil in 1946. He said that NRA has conducted surveys and drilled 14 oil wells in cooperation with oil companies between 1946 and 1976.

But, he said, in view of the absence of oil finds in commercial quantities the foreign companies stopped their tests and search for oil after 1976.

Another reason for stoppage was due to the lack of sufficient funds for the oil prospecting programmes, Jreisat added.

Since 1976, the Jordanian government spent \$225 million on oil exploration in Jordan and the NRA's work has thus been increased in the absence of foreign companies, Jreisat pointed out.

Jreisat gave details about NRA's operations that covered drilling experimental oil wells and conducting seismicological surveys to find oil in commercial quantities.

He said that the Hamzeh well now produces about 500 barrels per day and since it went into operation two years ago, the well produced 427,000 barrels of crude oil.

But the country has been producing sizable amounts of natural gas at Rishah at the rate of 16 million cubic metres of a day.

Natural gas, he added, is now being used extensively to generate electric power.

But according to estimates, Jordan still produces less than one per cent of the 60,000 barrels of oil it consumes every day.

The Canadian government is currently funding seismic work in the NRA's oil prospecting programme to find oil, especially near the Rishah Fields.

Oil companies active in Jordan over the past decade, were the U.S. firms AMOCO and Hunt. Petrofina of Belgium and Japan's Natural Oil Corporation.

Referring to contracts with foreign oil companies, Jreisat said these provided for the foreign companies to conduct oil search over 43 per cent of the total area believed to have oil; and the companies together spent around \$35 million to help Jordan find oil in commercial quantities.

Jreisat expects Petro-Canada oil company to spend \$32.1 million and the Japanese company \$5 million in the oil prospecting operations.

Later Sunday, Jreisat left for Damascus for talks on Syrian-Jordanian cooperation in exploiting natural resources and oil exploration. The talks will be conducted with officials and technicians from the Syrian Ministry of Minerals and Petroleum and are expected to culminate in the conclusion of a number of agreements on bilateral cooperation.

## NMI board approves new set of recommendations

AMMAN (Petra) — A set of decisions and recommendations were passed Sunday by the National Medical Institution's (NMI) board of trustees designed to promote the work at Jordanian hospitals.

The board, meeting under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, approved an allowance scale for NMI staff and set up a joint committee, grouping the minister of health and the presidents of the University of Jordan and the Jordan University of Science and Technology as well as the NMI director general, to work out a plan that would organise cooperation between universities and doctors training hospitals in Jordan.

The hospitals are run by the NMI which will take charge of the operation in cooperation with the committee, according to the statement issued at the end of the meeting.

NMI Director General Daoud Hanania presented an outline of the institution's activities and programmes to the meeting which was attended by several ministers and Jordanian university presidents.

for general, to work out a plan that would organise cooperation between universities and doctors training hospitals in Jordan.

The hospitals are run by the NMI which will take charge of the operation in cooperation with the committee, according to the statement issued at the end of the meeting.

NMI Director General Daoud Hanania presented an outline of the institution's activities and programmes to the meeting which was attended by several ministers and Jordanian university presidents.

### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**SAKET RECEIVES WFP DIRECTOR:** Agriculture Minister Bassam Al Saket Sunday discussed with the visiting director of the World Food Programme's (WFP) Mediterranean and Middle East region scopes of bilateral cooperation between Jordan and the WFP. The two officials also reviewed the achievements made by the upland development project and discussed the possibility of renewing it for a further five-year period. (Petra)

**NEW ENVOY TO SPAIN:** Shayer Bak, former chief of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador to Spain. He is expected to take up his new post in a few weeks. (J.T.)

**SUHEIMAT RECEIVES ENVOYS:** Greater Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat Sunday received in two separate meetings the ambassadors of Kuwait and Australia and discussed with them means of developing bilateral relations with their respective capitals. (Petra)

**NEW CEMENT SHIPMENT TO EGYPT:** A ship, carrying 22,500 tonnes of cement Sunday left for Egypt, as part of a 750,000 tonne contract, concluded between Jordan and Egypt. So far 267,000 tonnes have been exported to Egypt under the deal. (Petra)

**EGYPTIAN EXPERT ARRIVES:** The head of the Sociology and Agricultural Extension Department and professor of rural development at Cairo University, Khairi Hassan Al Saud, arrived in Amman Sunday to take part in a symposium on rural development and self-reliance economies in the occupied territories. The symposium is organised by the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee. (J.T.)

**PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS:** Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has drawn up a special programme to celebrate Prophet Mohammad's birthday which falls on Oct. 12, according to the Ministry's Secretary General Ahmad Helayyel. The celebrations include Islamic book exhibitions, Islamic cultural contests, lectures and symposiums on the occasion to be held at mosques and Islamic centres. Helayyel noted that the ministry has instructed all imams and preachers to focus in their sermons on the Islamic values and ethics and to stress the need for cooperation among the Muslim people. He pointed out that this year's theme will concentrate on belonging to the Muslim nation, safeguarding public property, rationalisation of consumption and economising in public and private spending.

**ARAB PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE:** Jordan is taking part in the second Arab parliamentary conference on population and development, currently held in Damascus. The conference is organised by the Syrian People's Assembly in cooperation with the Arab Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Development Programme. (Petra)

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

★ An Indian photographic exhibition — "Jawaharlal Nehru, His Life and Times" — at the Students Activities Complex, University of Jordan.

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Beal at Irbid's Young Women's Centre.

★ A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarfs and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).

#### LECTURE

★ A lecture, in Arabic, on health services in Jordan by Minister of Health and Development Dr. Zuhair Malhas at the Jordanian Writers' Federation — 6:30 p.m.

#### FILM

★ A French film entitled "Trois Hommes a Abette" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

## 'Inspection teams help to reduce unemployment'

AMMAN (Petra) — The work of Labour Ministry inspection teams is currently helping Jordan reduce the effects of the unemployment problem, and is organising the local labour market, Minister of Labour Jamal Al Bedour said Sunday.

This year the rate of unemployment compared to the total Jordanian workforce was estimated at 9.1 per cent and the proper work of the inspection teams is helping Jordanians take up positions filled by foreigners, the minister said in a statement at the opening of a training course for a group of Labour Ministry inspectors.

The Ministry of Labour, Bedour said, aims to create an opportune climate for all Jordanians to work in various economic and social fields to help increase production.

The Labour Ministry will continue to firmly apply the law and will impose strict penalties on violators, the minister warned.

## AAU to attend Prague preparatory meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman based association of Arab Universities (AAU) is taking part in a meeting that opened in Prague Sunday to prepare for a general conference by the International Association of Universities (IAU) which will be held in Helsinki next year.

The six-day preparatory meeting is attended by the AAU board members who will prepare an agenda for next year's Helsinki conference.

Dugheim, who left for the Czech capital Saturday to attend

He urged the inspectors to conduct daily inspection at all companies, factories, farms and other institutions in the country to ensure that their owners abide by the regulations.

Jordanians take up vocational training courses run by the Vocational Training Corporation to be qualified to handle different types of jobs now filled by non-Jordanian workers.

Bedour noted that among the present Jordanian job-seekers there are 20,000 school graduates with no skills and not qualified to take up skilled jobs.

These, he said, should try to acquire training and take over from the estimated 44,000 non-Jordanian workers in the country.

The training course is being organised in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) whose representative, Dr. Hassan Al Attar, made a speech at the opening session outlining scopes of cooperation between ILO and Jordan.

He said that Arab universities are allowed to send three delegates to the conference. The IAU was founded in 1950 to promote practical academic cooperation and to assist university institutions throughout the world. Its Paris-based secretariat provides information to IAU members, and conducts research and studies.

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## Soviet signal

THE SOVIET invitation to Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres to visit Moscow is a clear signal from the Kremlin that it seeks to enter the Middle East fray and help the process of peace in the region. The invitation to Peres also suggests that Moscow seeks dialogue with the Israeli Labour Party rather than with the Likudniks who have put up one obstacle after the other in the face of all past and recent efforts to move the peace process in the Middle East forward.

As the Israeli establishment attaches considerable importance to the cultivation and promotion of working relations with the Soviet Union, the Soviet choice of the Labour Party as the instrument or catalyst for Soviet-Israeli dialogue should serve as a signal to Israel that its interests could better be served if it opted for adopting the policies of the Labourites. The acceptance of this valuable invitation by Peres could therefore precipitate the downfall of the present coalition government in Tel Aviv and accelerate the process leading to new elections in Israel. Egypt's 10-point plan has already caused a deep split in the ruling Israeli establishment along Likud-Labour lines. And coming as it does on the heel of an emerging serious division of opinion in Israel on how to take the Cairo mediation effort, summoning Peres to Moscow at this critical juncture would suggest that the break down of the government in Israel is imminent.

This is not to suggest that a Labour led government in Israel — assuming that that was possible — would provide a ready-made solution to the Palestinian question. It would be naive to presume that the Labour Party in Israel has evolved so much and has changed its colour to such an extent that accommodation with the Palestinian side has become within reach. What needs to be assessed is whether Labour's apparent choice for talks with the Palestinians is tactical, aiming for the arrival to power again, or truly strategic aiming for realistic compromises with the Arab side. Nevertheless, the bottom line is that with the Likud bloc there is no hope whatsoever to reach a settlement that all sides can live with, whereas with the Labour there is a possibility, albeit slim, to accept the consequences of the Palestinian intifada and Jordan's severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank. The impending visit to Moscow by Peres could shed much light on this and other related inquiries.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies appearing Sunday heaped praise on the Arab League mediation committee on Lebanon for its efforts to find a settlement to the conflict.

Al Ra'i daily said that the Arab people in general and the Lebanese in particular must be delighted with the outcome of these efforts, represented in an overall agreement by the conflicting parties to end the bloodshed and start negotiations for peace. The paper said that it remains to be seen whether the factions in Lebanon and all those involved in the Lebanese question will remain committed to the tentative agreement. The return of the citizens of Beirut to their homes which started Saturday following the announcement of a ceasefire is a good indication that the problem is finally on its way for a solution, said the paper. But it should be noted that patience and perseverance are required in the long and strenuous process aiming at a settlement and a lasting peace, the paper added. Any difficulties from now on should be dealt with objectively and with a great measure of patience, otherwise the Arab League's efforts would be hampered, the paper said. It said that the long bloody conflict must have taught the Lebanese people a good lesson that nothing can be achieved through violence and war.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i praises the Arab League and its mediation committee for this good result. It must be said that the will of the Arab people in Lebanon and the determination of the Arab League for success have paved the way for this fruitful result and gave credit to the Arab order, Rimawi says in his Sunday column. The Arab League has indeed achieved a breakthrough and won the respect and support of the whole international community and above all, proved that the Arab governments can and must find ways to solve their problems and safeguard the interests of their people, the writer continues. But he says the agreement for a settlement can never succeed unless the Lebanese people themselves are seriously involved in the peace-making process and unless they continue their efforts to achieve reconciliation and peace. Only through peaceful negotiations and democracy can the Lebanese find a lasting settlement and prevent foreign forces from tampering with their own affairs, the writer says. He adds that in the civil war there should be no victor or vanquished if the country's independence and sovereignty are to be protected.

Al Dastour daily criticised Israel's position with regard to peace efforts being made by Arab and foreign countries while the Palestinians are showing increasing tendency to achieve peace, Israel maintains its intransigence and stubbornness; and pursues its repressive measures against the Palestinian people, the paper wrote. It said that every time the Arabs come up with a peace initiative, Israel counters this trend with new obstacles to impede the peace process with the purpose of perpetuating its occupation of Arab land and keeping the Middle East region as explosive as ever. Shami's recent statements and Israel's extremist position with regard to Arab peace bids should not be allowed to continue, said the paper. Should the United States allow Israel to maintain such policies the paper concluded, it would be opening the way for further threats to the interests of all those concerned in the Middle East region and its problems.

## Weekly Political Pulse

# There must be ways to rescue the jobless

By Waleed Sadi

THEY come alone or in droves; fine young Jordanian men and women with university education seeking jobs of all kinds. Many do not even care what position they are offered, all they care about is to land a place in the employee population. The trouble, of course, is that 99 per cent of them will be turned down as openings are extremely scarce, if not non-existent.

Such daily scenes occur practically everywhere in Jordan these days. No public or private department escapes from the cluster of such fine specimen of young Jordanians stampeding their front doors every morning with hungry looks for jobs. As one of those who have to confront the growing applicants for jobs with little or nothing to offer them in return, I watch with anguish the unfolding of a very serious problem facing the Kingdom. Often I try to sugar-coat my negative replies. At all times I feel that by closing the door completely or slamming it in their faces I will undermine their confidence and their sense of belonging to their homeland. It is an awesome responsibility to reject the youth of today on a daily basis. The ultimate price could be staggering. Fear now haunts all employers, who have no employment to offer, that by leaving the job-seekers with no hope they will be driving them to despair and away from their people and country to seek satisfaction elsewhere.

What exacerbate this ongoing drama is the feeling held by the rejected job-seekers that on one really cares about them or whether they leave their country and people or stay. This apparent sense of indifference that unemployed young Jordanians

encounter fortifies their inner feeling that they are of marginal importance and doomed to stay on the periphery of the list of Jordan's priorities.

Obviously this human drama lies in stark contrast with the economic realities imposed on Jordan and which ordain that there are simply not enough jobs to go around and that sound fiscal policies call for keeping the eyes of officialdom closed in the face of this growing problem. After all, we are all reminded, the dire economic conditions imposed on the country a string of demands culminating in tightening the belt of the entire public sector and much of the private sector as well. So our economic and financial wizards cannot afford to have a human face superimposed on their austerity policies. They have their priorities and the human dimension is seldom an integral part of them.

But what if the country loses the majority of its youth? What if the youth became alienated? Is it possible that such negative and ominous developments have no price tag that the economists and financiers can discern? If, as we always remind ourselves that the future of the country lies in the hands of the youth, which happen to compose more than half of the total Jordanian population, should we not show a bit more care about their lot in order to win them over in the service of their country? And what about the huge investments expended to have them educated and trained; does not that also have a price tag that must be reckoned with when we decide to be indifferent about the human dimension

of our so-called realistic policies?

As one of the many employers who are saddened every time they reject the young from taking their place in the making of our future, I think a lot more can and should be done to alleviate the sufferings of our youth. To me to recover their sense of belonging is of higher importance than satisfying the demands of the International Monetary Fund and all the other international financial centres put together. After all, without the participation of our youth in the building of their country there is not much of a future for the country.

Luckily it is also possible to reconcile the calls for strict austerity measures with plans to reintroduce our jobless youth to the mainstream of the employed Jordanians. I hate to believe that it is beyond the ingenuity of our economic planners to come up with rescue operations by creating jobs for the jobless in areas that could serve the interim economic objectives of the country. Expanding the export-oriented companies could be one of the easy ways to salvage the situation. Introducing the five-day working week could also be effective in spreading work around. Reducing double shifts and eliminating as much as possible opportunities for double job holders could also go a long way to rectify the situation. But whatever is the method employed for this purpose, it would be more economical in the long run to keep our youth employed than have them alienated, rejected or emigrants to other countries.

# Afghanistan — harassment is main rebel tactic

By Neil MacFarquhar

The Associated Press

SHINDAND, Afghanistan — The commander of the local army garrison knows the rebels will be back.

They have attacked this mud brick town, a few kilometres from a major air base, three times this year. After each foray, they evaporate back into the hills or surrounding villages. It is a tactic repeated throughout most of the country.

"They are not so near as they were before, but I don't know exactly where they are," said Col. Mobine Nurzi.

After the Soviets finished their troop withdrawal in February, the U.S.-backed rebels, known as Mujahideen, were predicting they easily would capture provincial centres like Jalalabad, if not Kabul itself.

Now, seven months later, their military campaigns remain centered on the type of harassment that successfully drove the Soviets home.

But guerrilla tactics do not appear capable of winning a civil war against the Kabul government or even much leverage at the bargaining table. And fatigue of war, rampant among civilians after 10 years of fighting, also is infecting the guerrillas. The conflict has claimed an estimated 1 million lives.

There is constant low-level combat that occasionally flares into full-scale battles.

Pilots on the runway in the southern city of Kandahar, fearing guerrilla missiles, taxi at 160 kilometres per hour. Soldiers said at least 10 rockets fall daily.

Troops at the last checkpoint in north Kabul before the Salang highway, the supply lifeline from the Soviet Union, report it was closed by guerrilla attacks for a few hours several times over the past week.

At the daily press briefing, the government spokesman reports a litany of "sweeping and mopping-up operations" throughout the provinces bordering Pakistan, where the rebels are headquartered.

The repetition indicates that the rebels cannot be completely swept away by military force. Still, the government is confident they can be held in check.

"Despite the attempts of the extremists, the situation in the country is by and large calm," President Najib told a group of foreign visitors last weekend.

He referred with bravado to a massive supply convoy that just arrived in Kandahar.

"Such a convoy rarely could exist even in the presence of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan," he said.

But Mahmoud Baryalai, the first deputy prime minister in charge of supplies, said earlier that the 100 or so vehicles were bogged down by guerrilla rocket fire on the last 150 kilometres of road before Kandahar.

The rebels claimed to have knocked off 110 trucks. The government said it lost three trucks and a tank but that a year's supply of ammunition got through.

The convoy apparently veered off hundreds of miles into the desert to avoid the attacks, eventually taking more than three

weeks to cover the 600 kilometres from the town of Torgandi on the Soviet border.

While sporadic attacks can interrupt supply routes, the rebels have been unable to take a major town.

A concerted attack on Khost, 40 kilometres from the Pakistani border, threatened the city briefly in late August. But diplomats said the rebels lacked the sustained supply routes needed to overcome government forces surrounded by dense mine fields and tanks.

An Asian diplomat in Kabul said the rebels, trained in guerrilla tactics, are having trouble making conventional attacks while lacking heavy artillery or air support.

The government uses both heavily. Dawn in Kabul is punctuated by the sound of outgoing missiles. The Continental Hotel, where most foreigners stay, shakes daily from a nearby battery.

The missiles range from long-range Scuds, used against rebel positions along the border, to multi-barrelled rocket launchers used for shorter distances. Attacks on Kabul have dropped sharply since August, when Frog-7 missiles, with a range of 70 kilometres, were deployed to knock out guerrilla positions around the capital.

The government also uses high-flying fighter-bombers, well out of range of the shoulder-fired Stinger missiles that the rebels used so successfully against Soviet helicopter gunships.

"The government's superior air power means even if the Mujahideen do take a city, it will simply be bombed out of existence," one diplomat said.

The government claims scores of rebels killed in almost every attack.

Nurzi told reporters — flown into the Western town of Shindand to disprove guerrilla claims of capturing it — that at least 100 were killed in a weeklong assault this month.

But one soldier said: "They really pounded us before withdrawing. How do we know how many were killed?"

Najib said the guerrillas had lost more fights in the last six months than in six years of fighting the Soviets. Rebel morale is reported to be low.

The government claims rebel commanders have stopped fighting because of agreements with Kabul, but it has yet to name any who have switched loyalties.

Government officials have said Ahmed Shah Masood, the commander of the Jamiat-E-Islami rebel faction who controls the Panjshir valley, is in contact with them through junior commanders.

But last week, his forces rocketed the Bagram air base and attacked trucks on the Salang highway, forcing it shut.

"There were rumours that he was talking to the government, so he had to do something," government spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said.

The rebel leaders in Pakistan have refused negotiations so far. Only six weeks remain before winter weather sets in. Most military activity stops then because mountain trails become impassable.

# Bush's BI ends with a whimper

By Jonathan Fenby

To: Secretary of State  
From: State Department/NSC  
Joint Liaison Planning Group  
September 19, 1989  
Subject: End of history  
Background:

1. Meetings in winter 88/89 determined that the Administration needed to nurture a "Big Idea" (BI) capable of providing intellectual underpinning for a two-term Bush presidency. The need was pressing in face of Gorbachev's public relations success.

2. The president gained ground with arms reductions proposals while the Administration's businesslike style created favourable international reaction. But, with democratisation in Poland and Hungary, negative fall-out was feared if the U.S. is seen as stand-pat while positive movement was apparent in the east.

Action:  
1. The article by Francis Fukuyama (FF), deputy director of State Department policy planning staff, entitled "The End of History" was identified as our prime BI candidate. Digests from the National Interest magazine were circulated.

2. FF's 16-page article is summarised as follows. It advances the argument that the 20th century is ending with "an unobscured victory of economic and political liberalism." Marxism is dead or dying fast. This means a growing "commo marketisation" of international relations and less likelihood of large-scale conflicts between states. In short "the end of history." While some countries will remain in the past, the post-historical future will consist of "economic calculations, the endless solving of technical problems, environmental concerns, and the satisfaction of sophisticated consumer demands."

3. Historico-philosophical roots. FF goes back to Hegel's judgement that Napoleon's victory over the Prussians at Jena in 1806 meant history was at an end. He cites the Russian-French Hegelian of the 1930s, Alexandre Kojève. So the idea is not new, but who remembers Hegel and Jena, let alone Kojève?

4. TA preliminary check showed that FF was well received in conservative circles. Publications in West Europe and Japan were planning to run him as a "guide to Bush Administration thinking."

5. The End of History was seen as a demonstration that, whatever advances Soviet policy might appear to offer, Gorbachev is not a trail blazer, merely a catch-up artist swept along on a wave of history already ridden by the West.

Current status:

1. FF's thesis has been criticised

by commentators not known for pro-Marxist bias. The New York Times said FF "crystallises what many might love to believe" but "overstates the triumph of liberal democracy in the West and ignores a major rival in the East (Japan)." Time magazine's outgoing Washington bureau chief, Strobe Talbott, called it "The Beginning of Nonsense," describing FF's thesis as "pernicious" and "afflicted by a peculiar combination of arrogance and shortsightedness."

2. Further evaluation highlights problem areas, some major, some small but potentially embarrassing. Among them:  
On his first page, FF talks of this century starting full of self-confidence in liberal democracy. In Wilhelmite Germany or Tsarist Russia? FF then gets into his Hegelian "history at an end" stride. The problem is that, Kojève and Marxist distortions notwithstanding, Hegel seems to have got it wrong. There has been an awful lot of history since 1806 — and is Napoleon's centralised, bureaucratic, interventionist, militaristic, post-revolutionary state a good antecedent for post-historical liberal democracy?

Concluding the Hegel section, FF says his triumphant "universal homogeneous state" might be described as "liberal democracy in the political sphere combined with easy access to VCRs and stereos in the economic."

That sounds a little tip in the big ideas realm — and what would Commerce think of giving Sony and Co such an endorsement?

Moving to a current world view, FF tells us not to worry about "challenges to liberalism promoted by every crackpot mes-

siah round the world" and adds:

"It matters very little what strange thoughts occur to people in Albania or Burkina Faso." As Talbott commented in Time, that judgment would be particularly embarrassing when "post-history" produces a nuclear conflict or ecological disaster beyond the technocratic reach of the micro-managers of post-historical earth.

Japan emerges from FF's pages as a prophet of both economic and political liberal democracy. How about those trade practices we were kept complaining about and Japan's bureaucratic one-party rule nexus? Hasn't Japan swallowed up liberal democracy rather than the other way round?

The Liberal Democratic Party and liberal democracy FF-style are barely synonymous — or, remembering that quote about VCRs, maybe they are. In the communist world, FF's arguments about the nature and pace of change in China have been vitiated, to say the least, by the Tiananmen Square massacre and the ensuing crackdown. As for the Soviet Union, he naturally talks of the inevitability of change as ideology bites the dust. Yes, this year and maybe next, but is it all so inevitable in the longer term? And in practically his next paragraph, FF switches to notice "fatal flaws" in Gorbachev's reforms, conservative opposition, and the continuing domination of the Communist Party and central planning.

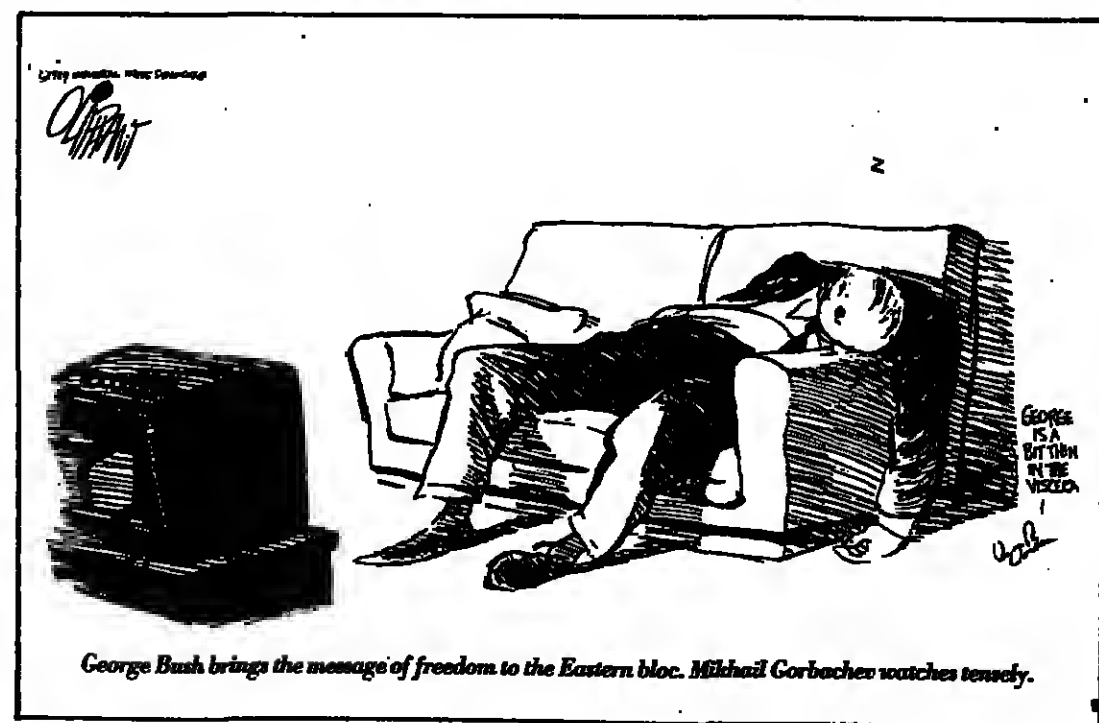
His conclusion is that large-scale world conflicts will be a thing of the past when history ends because such conflicts must involve large states still caught in the grip of history, which they won't be any more. So "conflict" takes no account of economic

rivalries and non-military battles for influence. Harking back to the "common marketisation" notion of the future world, FF does not seem to realise that the European Community's plans for 1992, if they work, will actually usher far more competition between West European nations.

Not armed competition, indeed, but then nobody has thought a European war likely for quite some time now. Anyway, armed great power competition has not always sprung from ideologies as FF implies — the First World War or the Russo-Japanese war or the Franco-Prussian war were hardly ideological conflicts.

Conclusions:  
FF ends by acknowledging that "the end of history will be a very sad time" to which there will be no call for daring, courage, imagination or idealism and no new art or philosophy. According to his final sentence, the boredom of post-historical life may get history going again. This seems (a) an unattractive message for supporters of liberal democracy (b) a self-defeating conclusion, after so many heavy assertions of the inherent correctness of the case (c) a case, as the British say, of having his cake and eating it.

Earlier on, FF informs us that his concern is not with short-term events, but with underlying trends. That may be just as well. Many readily observable short-term and medium-term events do not fit his diagnosis — some actively contradict it. An old-fashioned, big power-centric view of the world and a particular historical perspective further undermine the End of History. Not another Keaton: the Bush years still need a Big Idea — The Guardian.



# Menem plans to absolve military crimes

By Richard Jarvis

Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — President Carlos Menem has announced an end to trials of military officers accused of human rights abuses, brushing aside widespread demands that the men be brought to justice for their alleged role in the "dirty war" of the 1970s.

In disclosing the plan on Sunday he ignored a massive demonstration just a week before in which an estimated 100,000 people marched through the streets of Buenos Aires to oppose a whitewash of military crimes.

Since taking office in July Menem, himself a victim of the 1976-83 military regime's repression of leftist dissidents and subversives, has pledged to settle

once and for all the dilemma that has split Argentina for the past six years.

"The Argentine people are prepared for pacification and reconciliation," Menem said on Tuesday, two days after announcing plans to end proceedings against 19 senior army and naval officers facing charges of human rights abuses.

He will also drop charges against around 100 junior army officers who took part in three military uprisings between April, 1987 and December last year.

Some of the protesters in the recent demonstration were relatives or friends of the 9,000 people who disappeared, presumed dead, during the so-called "dirty war" against subversion.

But tens of thousands simply wanted justice to be done and for members of the armed forces to be held accountable for their actions.

"It (an end to the trials) would be a vindication of the murder of the defenceless. The next step would be the repetition of the genocide," said Adriana Calvo Labourde, who was kidnapped in 1977 and gave birth in a car while being taken from one secret prison camp to another.

Menem's predecessor Raul Alfonsín provided a partial solution to the sensitive military issue when, following a 1987 army uprising, he ended proceedings against junior officers accused of committing crimes while acting under orders.

Two more rebellions, in Janu-

ary and December last year, demonstrated discontent by officers who felt betrayed by condemnation from a society they believed they had defended.

Menem has still not disclosed his plans for the future of five former junta members, including former presidents Jorge Videla and Roberto Viola, who were tried and sentenced to up to life imprisonment by civilian courts in 1985.

"In this first stage we will pardon those who are being tried. We will see about the sentenced ones later," Menem said on Sunday.

Defence Minister Italo Luder said the decision to cancel the trials was part of the government's plan to improve Argentina's image abroad and attract foreign investors.



# Scars that won't heal

By Sana Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three children run around the Palestine Hospital grounds, playing and laughing and being naughty, like any other kids but with marked physical disfigurements. Arafat, six, Ahmad, seven, and Najwa, 10, are here for plastic surgery because of serious burns inflicted upon them by Israeli soldiers.

Israeli soldiers were chasing Arafat's older siblings March 30, 1988, (Land Day) in a refugee camp in the occupied Gaza. The soldiers entered the house where Arafat was playing, and his mother was frying fish for lunch. After a brief questioning on where her older children were, a soldier knocked over the boiling cooking oil that contained the fish over the right side of Arafat's face and neck.

Ahmad was also playing in a street where stones were being thrown and tyres being burned in Gaza last year. In the confusion that followed after the occupying forces rushed to break up the demonstration, a burning tyre landed on Ahmad's head: a soldier had thrown the tyre in the direction of the protesters, and Ahmad got third degree burns.

Najwa was in her home in the West Bank town of Abu Dees when a tear-gas canister landed at her feet and exploded. The result: third degree burns on her inner thighs and stomach.

The three children are being treated by plastic surgeon Ziyad Kayyali at Palestine Hospital in Amman. He told the Jordan Times that there are no Arab plastic surgeons in the occupied territories, and most Palestinian families cannot afford to be treated at Israeli hospitals.

Kayyali said tear-gas burns are especially difficult to treat because of the complexity of the contents of the canisters.

"There are cases of tear-gas inhalation burns that we cannot properly treat," he said. "Since the canisters are manufactured in the United States, a group of interested specialists have asked the concerned American parties for the antidote for the tear-gas to know how we can treat the burns accordingly," Kayyali said.

These children are still children: regardless of their deformities now, they will eventually improve, and the scars will hardly show when the plastic treatment is over. According to Kayyali, they will grow up and continue their lives like all other children. But will the scars left behind in their mind go away?

**Permanent injuries**  
But Majdi is 21, and his injury is permanent: he is paralysed from the waist down. Majdi was stabbed with a knife in the back by a fellow Palestinian "collaborator" last February because of his nationalist stands.

Majdi, a car mechanic from Nablus, sat in his wheelchair as he spoke without much remorse about his experiences with the Israeli occupation authorities. His large green eyes were full of pride as he spoke about his 75-year experience at Anwar III prison in the Naqurah desert. Anwar III is a detention camp that was opened following the eruption of the intifada 22 months ago, and is said by many to be very similar to the Nazi concentration camps of World War II. As he put it to the

Jordan Times, "that prison needs an intifada of its own."

Majdi's mother, who also spoke to the Jordan Times, said that her four sons have been arrested by the Israeli authorities during the intifada. She is proud, "even my 12-year-old was arrested," she said, adding that "many homes in Nablus have contributed to the struggle against Israeli occupation."

When Majdi was stabbed and his spinal cord was damaged leaving him paralysed, he tried to get permission from the authorities to cross the bridge to Jordan for further treatment.

"The process took six months. I was told that I could not come back for nine months, but I didn't care. I just wanted to seek further treatment. I got permission to leave several times, but they kept sending me back at the bridge giving different excuses. Once, the Israeli administrator pretended not to believe that I was paralysed," Majdi said.

He added that after continued and frustrating efforts, the Red Cross stepped in and thus he was finally able to cross the bridge into Jordan.

**Defiance despite injuries**

Majdi's neurosurgeon at Palestine Hospital, Dr. Nasri Khouri, said that "many Arab hospitals are not capable of treating certain injuries, and the Israeli hospitals reject admittance to Arabs unless they pay a lot of money." There are many cases where leaving the occupied territories for treatment is vital, according to Khouri.

Khouri cited some systematic measures taken by the occupying authorities to pose obstacles for

patients trying to leave. "Injured young men between the ages of 15 and 35 are allowed to leave only if they stay away for a minimum of nine months," Khouri pointed out.

Palestinian men must also prove that they have paid all their taxes before being allowed to leave. "And now with the Palestinian civil disobedience campaign, the majority of Palestinians are not paying taxes in defiance of the Israeli occupation. Therefore, there are many adult men who want to accompany their injured children cannot leave the occupied territories," he noted.

Khouri said that foreign embassies and diplomats should pressure the Israeli authorities to waive these rules and regulations for any person who needs medical treatment outside the occupied territories.

The neurosurgeon estimated that during the first year of the intifada, there were 32,000 injuries (according to Palestinian, Israeli and United Nations figures). The second year, this number reached 100,000, he said.

**50,000 disabled for life**

"Assuming that half of these injuries are long-term disabilities, that's 50,000 disabled Palestinians. With a population of 1.7 million, that means two per cent of the entire Palestinian population living under occupation will have to live the rest of their lives with different disabilities inflicted by Israeli soldiers. This is the same percentage as diabetes in Western societies," Khouri explained.

The doctor added that this has



Arafat, 6 years old

many implications: "We'll have such a large number of young people who will have to continue the rest of their lives in special places, special homes, and who will not be able to work in a healthy environment, and who will have to adapt to a different lifestyle."

Palestinians suffering from long-term disabilities because of the Israeli occupation are not just numbers, they are real as Majdi.

Majdi has been in Amman for a month now and he might travel abroad for further possible treatment; he has another eight



Ahmad, 7 years old

months to kill before he is able to return to Nablus, where he "will adapt to a life with my new circumstances," he said.

Although he sits in a wheelchair, Majdi knows he is only one in thousands who is suffering as a result of Israeli occupation. He knows that more people will con-

tinue to suffer "as long as the Israeli occupation continues. No matter how many are killed or wounded," Majdi added with his large alert eyes looking for his cigarettes which lay on his hospital bed. "The intifada will continue until we have our independent Palestine."

## Learning for a living

By Colleen Lowe Morna

Tens of thousands of Zimbabwe's school-leavers with only academic skills, face the prospect of unemployment. An innovative school offers a way out of the dilemma with a practical curriculum geared to earning a living and self-employment.

HARARE — While most school pupils in Zimbabwe go to class in well-pressed dresses or trousers, boys and girls at Mupfema college turn up in blue overalls.

Unlike most schools in Zimbabwe which teach the curricu-

lum for the academic "O" and "A" level exams set in London, Mupfema offers courses with strict practical relevance to pupils' lives, and none are for examination purposes.

The 140 youngsters enrolled

grow a third of the food they eat, participate in the running of the school, and learn how to set up business enterprises when they go out into the world.

Set up in 1986 to help ex-combatants of the independence war find employment, Mupfema's approach is becoming increasingly attractive as Zimbabwe struggles to find its own appropriate education policy.

Because of the country's colonial history, education is an especially sensitive issue.

Prior to independence in 1980, only one-third of eligible African children went to primary school, and only one-eighth of these went on to secondary school.

In contrast, an 11-year education was compulsory for the rich, minority white population. Not

surprisingly, black students viewed an education as their only hope of breaking out of the impoverished rural areas, and into well-paid urban jobs.

The new government lost little time in making primary school education free and compulsory for all Zimbabweans, while promising a place in secondary school for anyone wishing to go on.

Almost overnight, school enrolments quadrupled, forcing many schools to add on fresh classrooms, as well as introduce a system of "hot seating" or double shifts. Today, no Zimbabwean child is denied an education.

The problem, however, is what happens after pupils leave school. Next year alone, some 300,000 school-leavers are expected to

join a labour market with only 10,000 new jobs available.

Economists predict that by the turn of the century, some three million youth — or about half Zimbabwe's labour force — will be jobless.

According to the Minister for School Education Faye Chung, Zimbabwe must industrialise to create more jobs. But she stresses that, in the short term, many Zimbabwean school-leavers will have to be self-employed, mostly in the rural areas.

Efforts have been made to bring home that reality. Says Chung: "We have made the curriculum focus on Zimbabwe, away from preparing people to live in London." In addition, most schools now offer at least one practical subject, and have

adopted the dictum: "education with production."

But problems remain. Teachers, according to an education analyst at the University of Zimbabwe, are still geared to "turning students into academics like themselves." Even those taking practical subjects do not spend enough time on them to become fully proficient in the skill nor learn "the mix of skills necessary to run a business."

"Our 'O' level students are not skilled enough to be self-employed," concedes Chung. In future, she says, Zimbabwe hopes to introduce much more vocational education, citing Mupfema college as an example of how that might work.

Mupfema students choose one of four core subjects: agriculture,

building, textiles or woodwork. This takes up 75 per cent of study time. The rest goes toward supportive theory subjects such as mathematics, "English for communication", business studies, co-operative theory and development studies.

During their second year, according to headmaster Wilbert Matenga, pupils set up their own "production units", in which they carry out market surveys and actually sell their products. Half of the proceeds goes to the group, the other half toward the running costs of the school.

Students learn management skills by sitting on the school management committee and helping to run its financial affairs. The difference between Mupfema and other schools, says Thepelo

Mahlangu, a textile student, is that while others offer "education and production, we learn education with production."

Some 54 students from last year's class have set up co-operatives, the names of which — "Grow More Trees" (a carpentry co-operative) and "Frontline Fabrics" — show the enthusiasm of their members, despite the problems they face finding start-up capital.

The key question for Zimbabwe in formulating its future education policy, says Chung, "is how society rewards different occupations. If a small-scale farmer earns two to three times the minimum wage, everyone will get the message that it is better to be in that sector, rather than a clerk in town" — PANOS.

## Neutrals adjust to a changing world

FOR ITS ninth, triennial summit conference the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) returned here to the Yugoslav capital where it was founded 28 years ago.

The choice of venue was timely as the host country has been prominent among those member-states most acutely aware of how profoundly the international scene has changed since 1961. And how vitally necessary it is for the 102-strong grouping to adapt to this transformation.

Thus the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Budimir Loncar, declared on the eve of the four-day gathering: "The movement is being modernised by adopting a more realistic approach to the world."

With an original membership of 25, the NAM was created to occupy the middle ground between what were then two sharply divided blocs. By now, however, in the strictest sense the grouping would seem to have lost much of its motivation.

As a significant majority of its members readily concede, at a time of increasing East-West rapprochement non-alignment risks being overtaken by the pace of global changes.

What is widely seen as a crisis of identity has been further sharpened by the disputes and even open conflicts that have erupted between members of the group.

These have included the long and costly war between Iran and Iraq and Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia. Moreover, even that most discreet of diplomats, the United Nations' Secretary-General, chided the NAM for failing to play a more effective role in settling regional conflicts.

Javier Perez de Cuellar hoped to take advantage of his presence in Belgrade to revive the deadlocked peace talks between the Gulf combatants. But, with the Iranians and Iraqis continuing to blame each other for the failure to reach any accord, he left saying: "I would not be telling the truth if I said we were making progress."

And even though the Soviet Union has now withdrawn its invading forces, Afghanistan remains a problem. At the conference there were angry exchanges

between the Pakistani delegation and that from the Moscow-backed Kabul regime.

Overall, however, the Yugoslavs and their allies must be fairly satisfied with the summit, judging from both the tone and content of the final declaration.

This was markedly less confrontational — and much shorter — than most of its predecessors. Gone were some of the old shibboleths, to be replaced by more relevant issues such as the global environment and the Third World's debt burden.

The apparent end of the Cold War, which led to the NAM's creation, was welcomed as a window of opportunity for the international community. But apartheid was condemned, as were Israeli policies.

Inevitably, the presence of the Libyan leader, Muammar Qadhafi provided both a diversion and a distraction. He flew in after celebrating the 20th anniversary of his seizure of power, proclaiming that he had come to "save" the movement from "dying".

Instead of staying at the Libyan Embassy, he pitched a tent in its grounds. His caravan included five camels to provide him with milk as well as two horses for his mounted guards.

These were the French provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, the USSR's Baltic republics and Alaska. Qadhafi appeared to have forgotten that he had previously called for the return of much of North America to the indigenous Indians.

The summit marked the beginning of Yugoslavia's three-year chairmanship of the NAM. To many observers the grouping's future hinges largely on the extent to which the Yugoslavs can "modernise" it, in other words, steering it on a more pragmatic and meaningful course.

Even at the start of Belgrade's stewardship there were hopeful signs, not least the indications that some of the movement's hardliners seize the new direction in which it is moving. This was believed to be one of the reasons why some familiar faces, including that of Cuba's President Castro, were missing from the conference. — Lions features.



Hunting is a topic which enjoys pride of place for the new 1989/90 shoe collections. Warm shades of red and rust are numbered among the models in city and country style, which the German Shoe Institute presented in Frankfurt.

— New models from the German Shoe Institute —

## Nobly formed and in dark colours

By Hilde Simek

FRANKFURT/MAIN — The new shoe fashion for 1989/90 is "foot compatible." Foreign sales are flourishing for the German leather industry. From 1987 to 88, exports of leather rose from 21,166 to 23,787 tonnes (plus 12.1 per cent), the total value of the goods rose from 808.6 to 896.7 million DM. The main customers were the EC states — above all, the Benelux countries and Portugal — along with Yugoslavia.

The leather industry feels confident because of the qualitatively high and fashionable shoes offered by German shoe

factories (some 270 firms with around 35,000 staff), which have just presented their new collections. A diversity of forms and colours — ranging from sporty walking shoes to fur-lined boots by way of models in city and country look, ballerinas and pumps to high-heeled sandalettes for the evening and elegant patent leather shoes for gentlemen.

Apart from black, brown and blue, the dominating colours are warm shades of red, rust and gold. Trade experts also appreciated distinguished shades of green — from kiwi to fir. It seems likely that this year the shoe industry in the

Federal Republic of Germany will achieve an even better turnover than in 1988 (around 6 billion DM). Makers of fashionable ladies' handbags and leather cases also anticipate doing good business.

However, in spite of these favourable aspects, the Association of the German Leather Industry in Frankfurt/Main regards the future with a certain amount of scepticism. A degree of market saturation and a growing pressure caused by imports are causing trouble. Between 1987 and 88 for instance, German leather production dropped from 30,908 to 28,844 tonnes. The number of

leather factories also fell. There were different developments on the various sectors.

Even makers of fashionable leather jackets, coats and other leatherwear complain of a "difficult market." Although the value of leather imports dropped in 1988 by 3.4 per cent to around 1.45 billion DM, it still amounted to almost 62 per cent more than the value of German leather exports. Numbered among the main suppliers of the German market in 1988, were Italy, Austria, India, France and the USA.

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# G-7 prepare to succumb dollar's rise

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Finance officials of the world's seven largest economic powers have expressed dismay at the persistent increase in the value of the U.S. dollar this year and pledged to take coordinated action if necessary to drive the currency lower.

In their first meeting since April, the finance ministers and central bank governors of the so-called Group of Seven — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Great Britain, France, Canada and Italy — Saturday stepped up their rhetoric about curbing the buoyant dollar.

The rising dollar threatens to derail improvement in the U.S. trade deficit.

The Group of Seven (G-7) talks were being held before the start of the annual meetings of the IMF and its sister lending organization, the World Bank.

The group had expressed a similar concern last spring, but the tone of the statement released Saturday was considerably stronger, holding out the threat that if the dollar rises any further the economic powers would intervene together in world currency markets.

"The ministers and governors considered the rise in recent months of the dollar inconsistent with longer run economic fundamentals," the group said in a two-page communique released after the eight-hour meeting.

"They agreed that a rise of the dollar above current levels... could adversely affect prospects for the world economy... (and) agreed to cooperate closely in exchange markets," the statement said.

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady emphasized this part of the communique in a briefing for reporters but he refused to say what specific actions the countries would be willing to take if the dollar goes higher.

In April, the officials used milder language and simply said they agreed that "a rise of the dollar which undermined adjustment efforts... would be counterpro-

ductive," not any rise.

The group, meeting two hours longer than expected, also addressed topics ranging from the Third World's crushing \$1.3 trillion debt to Western efforts to aid economic reforms in Eastern Europe.

Officials told reporters the extra time was devoted to discussing events in Poland and Hungary, which the communique termed "historic."

"The whole meeting of the G-7 became electric when he started talking about the events going on in the Soviet Union and Poland," Brady said, adding that the finance ministers hoped the 152-nation International Monetary Fund (IMF) would be able to reach quick agreement on a loan package for Poland.

On Third World debt, the communique praised Brady's latest initiative for achieving "substantial progress."

Since the Brady plan was announced in March, commercial banks have struck tentative agreements granting relief to Mexico and the Philippines.

Last week, however, three major U.S. banks added more than \$4 billion to their loss reserves for developing country loans. Analysts are expressing concern that this could signal unwillingness to make enough new money available to sustain growth in the developing nations, most of them in Latin America.

The communique noted the development, saying "diversified financial support from the banks is needed to support sound economic reform programmes through a broad array of new lending and debt service reduction mechanisms."

But, it was the group's remarks on the dollar that were most

eagerly awaited by financial markets.

"That's a much stronger statement against any rise in the dollar," said economist David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., a government securities dealer. "I would expect on the heels of that statement more aggressive dollar selling from central banks."

He said the G-7 countries likely now will be willing to accelerate the decline of the dollar when it is falling on its own, not just counter any rise. And, he speculated that Japan and Germany would show more willingness in the months ahead to raise their interest rates as a means of influencing exchange markets.

Possibly, he said the Federal Reserve may nudge U.S. rates lower.

An increase in Japanese and West German interest rates would make investing in those countries more attractive and would thus raise the value of their currencies. A cut in interest rates in the United States would push

the dollar lower.

The G-7 has issued statements in the past pledging to hold the dollar down. But despite heavy intervention in currency markets — the buying and selling of currencies to influence exchange rates — efforts have been largely unsuccessful. The volume of private currency trading has grown so huge that it dwarfs any buying or selling that central banks can do.

Since the last G-7 meeting, the dollar has appreciated by about 10 per cent against the Japanese yen and three per cent against the Deutschmark. The dollar Friday bought 146 yen and 1.95 marks, well above what is presumed to be the upper limit of the trading range sought by the G-7 — 140 yen and 1.90 marks.

A strong dollar hurts the trade deficit by raising the price of U.S. goods on overseas markets while making foreign goods cheaper for American consumers. The trade gap shrank by 22 per cent last year, but progress has slowed in

1989, with the deficit shrinking at only about half of last year's rate.

In addition to the narrow question of exchange rates, Finance officials discussed the broader issue of economic coordination. The United States has been pressing West Germany and Japan to stimulate consumer demand in their countries as a means of cutting their trade surpluses and reducing the U.S. deficit.

The United States, in turn, is being urged to reinstate efforts to curb its budget deficit, which is believed to contribute to the trade deficit.

Meanwhile, the world's poorer nations Saturday called on the rich to do more to help ease the crushing burden of Third World debt.

Finance ministers and officials from 24 developing nations issued a communique after meeting in Washington expressing deep concern over the deterioration in countries struggling under heavy foreign debt.

The Group of 24, which repre-

sents the 78 developing countries in the IMF and World Bank, met here to present the Third World's viewpoint to the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank.

"Ministers... restated their deep concern over the deterioration of economic and social conditions in heavily indebted countries," the communique said.

"The overall external debt situation of the developing countries remains critical... and the continued negative net transfers of resources... have a considerable adverse impact on growth prospects of these countries," it added.

The group welcomed recent moves on debt reduction such as the initiative unveiled in March by Brady, but said they were not enough.

It said the existing market-based strategy for tackling the world debt crisis shuts out too many debtor countries.

Ministers said multilateral agencies — like the IMF and World Bank — and richer gov-

ernments should step up support for initiatives to help ease the debt burden.

Financial imbalances in industrial nations have pushed up interest rates, and therefore debt service costs, while commodity prices have deteriorated, the communique said.

The group said the Brady plan overlooks countries like Colombia which are middle income debtors and have faithfully serviced their debt but receive no reward through relief on payments.

"We believe our payments record should be rewarded by better access to multilateral lending," Colombian Finance Minister Fernando Alarcon told journalists.

The group urged more flexible use of IMF and World Bank resources for debt reduction and speedier disbursement.

It said the Toronto agreement, in which creditors offered a three-option relief plan for 13 sub-Saharan countries, should be ex-

teaded to other poor countries. The plan has so far been applied to \$3 billion of debt.

The ministers also noted that debt relief is only being granted to countries that have made progress in economic adjustment while those whose economies are beyond revival without debt relief are not granted it.

Creditor nations should do more to help countries, like Guyana and Peru, in arrears to the IMF, the communique said.

It also supported an increase of at least 100 per cent in IMF resources to help deal with the debt problem.

The ministers welcomed World Bank lending to help developing countries cope with environmental deterioration but said these loans should not impose additional conditions.

They said industrial countries bear prime responsibility for environmental problems and they should avoid actions that lead to dumping toxic wastes in developing nations.

## Jordan boasts of major achievements in electric generation

By Nur Sati  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has come a long way since the 1930s when electricity generation was launched in Amman with small diesel engines with a total capacity of 50 megawatts (Mw). Now 96 per cent of the Kingdom enjoys elec-

tricity. The remaining four per cent represent remote and sparsely populated villages where it is uneconomical to extend the national network.

Fawwaz Karmi, technical planning manager at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), says the main JEA objective is to supply electricity that "is of good quality

as well as good reliability standard at the least possible cost and without any limits that would penalise consumers."

There are two main power stations in Jordan, the Al Hussein Thermal Power Station at Zarqa and the Aqaba Thermal Power Station. JEA also has several diesel-run and gas-run power-generating facilities. Karmi explained the advantage of thermal power stations in that they have the highest efficiency for burning fuel. Steam-run generators account for 85 per cent of JEA production while gas constitutes eight per cent. Since diesel oil is expensive, Karmi explained, the JEA tries to use the gas turbines as little as possible. JEA also has two hydro-electric sites, one in Aqaba and the other in the King Talal Dam connected to the national grid. Wind and solar turbines constitute a very minimal percentage of the national output. According to Karmi, "the three are all pilot projects just to demonstrate the equipment, for they are too expensive to dominate other electrical generators."

Jordan is the first country in the Middle East to have a wind energy farm, situated in Ibrahimieh in the north. Although it is very limited, Karmi foresees a future in this technology. "But we cannot expand unless we get good offers," he said.

JEA has completed a feasibility study to link the national grids of Egypt and Jordan. Egypt's installed capacity is around 9000 Mw and the maximum load for production capacity is 6,500 Mw, while Jordan has a total capacity of 950 Mw with a maximum load of 550 Mw. The next step in the linkage project is an engineering study to design the interconnection route, after which specifications for tender documents will be prepared.

"This interconnection is beneficial in that it enables the exchange of power in an emergency which reduces the reserve," Karmi said. He also pointed out that the production costs in both countries differ, therefore a transfer from a lower to a higher production cost system will result in reduced costs.

JEA is also striving to reduce its production cost, according to Karmi. Its focus has also shifted

to utilising natural gas. With the inauguration of a 60-Mw gas plant at Al Rishah, near the Iraqi border, in March, JEA hopes to trim about 10 per cent off the country's 50,000 barrels of a day requirement of imported oil.

"Continuous monitoring of the system performance and taking measures to improve the efficiency of power plants reduce losses throughout the network from the supply side," said Karmi. He said that JEA follows a philosophy based on better management of the demand side to reduce cost of electricity.

JEA has stopped electricity exports to Syria, according to Karmi. In a joint venture with European consultants, the JEA has conducted a study to provide technical services to Mauritania.

Karmi noted the JEA had entered several agreements with international firms which include training, technical and feasibility studies. "We feel that we have acquired certain expertise in specified fields," he said. "We will be able to provide our technical services in the region as well as in developed countries."

Experts are trained at a technical centre near Zarqa. The aim of this centre is to provide technicians with "good technical background to work in JEA or other industrial sectors in Jordan," according to Karmi. The training centre has been receiving trainees from other developing countries since it opened two years ago.

JEA coordinates with several other companies, including privately-owned companies such as the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) and the Irbid District Electricity Company (IDECO). The Ministry of Energy and Mineral resources sets policies for the distribution, and the implementation of these policies is the responsibility of JEA with the cooperation of JEPCO and IDECO, Karmi said.

The economic situation in Jordan has had a negative effect on the demand of electricity, Karmi said. Since electricity consumption correlates with the economy, the "elasticity factor" is very high, meaning that any change in the economy, whether positive or negative, will affect the electricity demand or consumption.

Karmi explains that JEA's aim in the coming five years is "to concentrate on the demand-side management for local management and energy conservation to reduce consumption." This is done by exploring all the possible indigenous resources to cover the increasing demand for energy and electricity.

JEA will also improve the components of the power system and increase its efficiency as well as reducing losses. "The rate of electricity growth is still high and in the range of eight to 10 per cent," Karmi said.

Included in JEA future plans is a project to develop hydro-carbon reserves of oil. According to Karmi, deposits have been found in central Jordan with abundant quantities. JEA will also concentrate on utilising natural gas by building more plants. Whether Jordan has enough reserves "remains to be seen," said Karmi. One of the reasons for building the gas turbines in Al Rishah was "to help our systems organise Natural Resources Authority tests to estimate and evaluate the actual reserves of gas," he added.



Al Hussein Thermal Power Station in Zarqa



Aqaba Thermal Power Station

## Average Japanese savings top 10m yen

TOKYO (AP) — The average Japanese household's savings topped 10 million yen (\$68,700) for the first time this year, up 10.6 per cent from the previous year, according to news reports Saturday.

The reports quoted a survey conducted by the Bank of Japan in June and July as saying the average Japanese household's savings, including stocks and bank deposits, totalled 10.13 million yen (\$69,600).

However, 80 per cent of 4,248 households polled said their savings — 16 per cent of the \$3.31 million yen (\$36,500) average annual income — were not enough.

In comparison, the average household in the United States saved 5.6 per cent, while that of Britain saved only 0.8 per cent.

The United States has criticised excessive saving in Japan as discouraging consumption, particularly of products exported from America.

Some 20.8 per cent of the households had more than 15 million yen (\$103,100) in savings, while roughly half had less than seven million yen (\$48,100).

The increase of savings reflected growth in personal income, more awareness of the need to have savings for retirement and the wide variety of investment venues available to the public, reports in the mass-circulation Asahi Shimbun and Nihon Keizai Shimbun newspapers quoted the committee as saying.

The reports quoted the committee as saying some 80 per cent

of those responding to the survey said their main reason for saving was to be prepared for a serious illness.

The second-most important incentive was saving for retirement, and accounted for 51.5 per cent. Saving to buy real estate was 17.7 per cent.

Average savings in the form of bank deposits and postal savings fell below 50 per cent for the first time, the survey reportedly said.

Japanese post offices often provide savings services much like those of commercial banks. In contrast, the proportion of investment in insurance, stocks and bonds rose to 40.2 per cent.

Meanwhile, citizens of eight West European countries, led by Switzerland, earned more than the average American in 1988, according to figures made available by the World Bank.

Switzerland's per capita income was \$20,130 last year compared with the United States' \$14,080. Other countries were: "Luxembourg, \$19,960; Sweden, \$17,160; Iceland, \$16,480; West Germany, \$15,880; Norway, \$15,250; Denmark, \$14,530 and France, \$14,130.

Japan was still some distance behind with an average of \$12,480. But its increase over the previous year — \$700 — was considerably greater than that of the United States — \$430.

The comparisons are given in terms of the price of the dollar in 1980, and corrected for inflation since then. No figures were available for the relative costs of living in the countries.

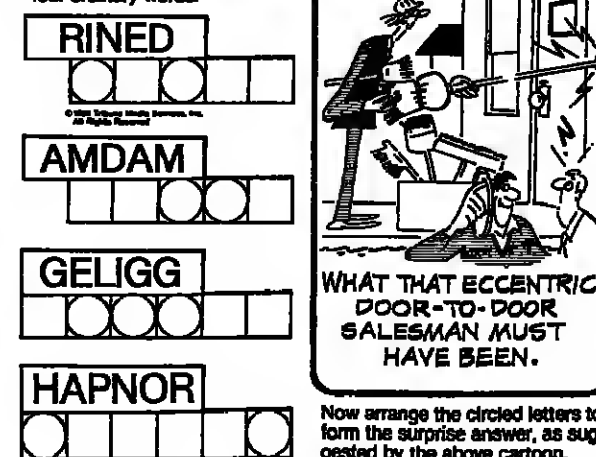
### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"You always sleep with the lights off and your eyes closed! You're too predictable!"

### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O" (Answers tomorrow)

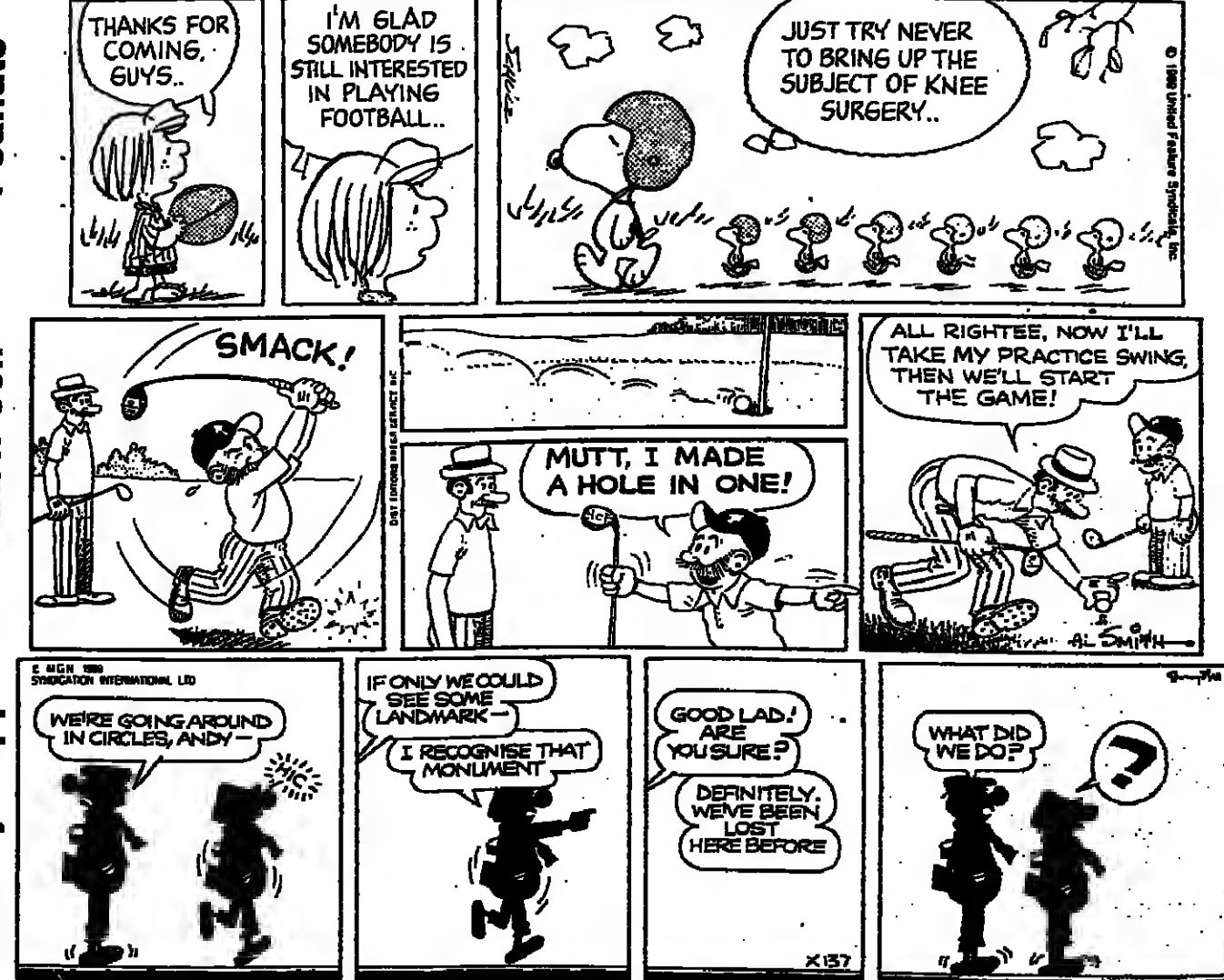
Yesterday's Jumbles: AVAIL TRAIT BANGLE COMEDY

Answer: They said the movie had a happy ending because everyone was this—GLAD IT WAS OVER

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

#### Palm oil prices seen going up

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Palm oil prices, now around 690-700 ringgits (\$225-259) a ton, are expected to climb to about 1,000 ringgits (\$370) by the year end, the chairman of the government-run Palm Oil Research Institute of Malaysia has said. "Buyers should grab the opportunity to buy as much as possible now when the price is still low," Mohammad Said said in a speech. Mohammad said a thorough analysis of price trends, based on production, consumption patterns and current trade in the world's major edible oils and fats, indicated that the present low prices were short-term.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, September 24, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	611.3	617.3	French franc	92.7
Pound Sterling	962.8	972.4	Japanese yen (for 100)	419.1
Deutschmark	313.2	316.3	Dutch guilder	277.8
Swiss franc	361.4	365.0	Swedish crown	92.6
			Italian lira (for 100)	43.5
			Belgian franc (for 10)	149.9
				151.4



## Chang enters finals

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Top-seeded Michael Chang, who has not lost a set in four matches here, beat Scott Davis 6-4, 6-4 Saturday in the semifinals of the Volvo Tennis Men's Tournament.

Second-seeded Brad Gilbert and fifth-seeded Aaron Krickstein played in a night match at the Los Angeles Tennis Center for the right to meet Chang in Sunday's final.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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## EXCEPTION PROVES THE RULE

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 6  
♥ 8  
♦ A Q J 10 9 8  
♣ A J 7 6 4

**EAST**  
♠ A 10 9 7 5  
♥ K 8 4 3  
♦ A Q 6 5 3  
♣ K 7 6 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ Q J 2  
♥ J 10 9 7 2  
♦ A 2  
♣ Q 10 3

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 2 NT 3 ♠  
3 ♥ Pass 4 ♠  
Pass Pass Dbl Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠.

If there is one rubric we would have asserted should never be broken, it would have been: "Don't underlead an ace against a suit contract." Then this deal came along.

North's hand is what we would consider typical for the Unusual No Trump convention, which shows a

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Arguments today are likely with the Moon square Venus and Pluto, especially if you try to push your occupational ideas upon others whether they work with you or are on the outside.

**ARIES:** (March 20 to April 17)

You have many creative ideas about your work but you need to check them out with an influential friend. Don't spend a lot of money but you will be able to make interesting new plans to add to your income.

**TAURUS:** (April 18 to May 19)

You will have a good chance to get the help of one who can aid you most at your own particular job now. New activities that are connected with pleasure or adornment can increase your income.

**GEMINI:** (May 20 to June 20)

You will need to be alert for new means and methods by which you do your job. New friends who have dynamic ideas will help you to attain your cherished social objectives.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 21 to July 21)

A highly placed person will show how to do your work so that you will get much better results. A new project that has long time potentials for a big success is now yours.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21)

You will need to be very exact and conscientious at your work today or you can lose out where it means the most to you. This is the day when you should change your attitude.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21)

A friend can give you some excellent information how that can aid you with your job. You are now under excellent aspects for increasing your income, so follow your best ideas.

**LIBRA:** (September 22 to October 22)

You can be direct as you wish in stating exactly what you want

where your work is concerned. You will have two projects in which you can make more money.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21)

You will need to think quickly in order to do all the little jobs that are awaiting your attention. You will need to get the advice of a successful man before entering into a business proposition.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 20)

Work will be a drag today but if you relax on your job you will get the will of important persons. A new proposition brought by influential men from a distance is fine for you.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 21 to January 18)

You will have your most inventive and ingenious ideas that you have had at your work for a long time. Friends and charming associates will both help you to solve money matters that concern you now.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 19 to February 17)

Make a point not to be casual at your work today or you lose out with fellow-workers, etc. All kinds of new ideas are presented to you about getting more money.

**PISCES:** (February 18 to March 21)

The thought that you put into your work today will have long time and beneficial results. You will be stirred up to argue over money at home, but don't or trouble ensues.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will have a lot of good ideas and imagination. They will need to work any plan or idea down to a practical and workable level and will want to learn all about the most acceptable methods of doing things the right way. Education and religious training are a must.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

## Liverpool beats Everton 3-1

LONDON (R) — Liverpool blasted another icy warning across English soccer Saturday when they won 3-1 at their nearest and biggest rivals, Everton.

Edged out of the title by Arsenal in the dying seconds of last season, Liverpool are clearly in the mood to re-assert themselves.

After trailing 1-0, two second half goals in two minutes from Ian Rush did just that at Goodison park.

The goals Rush scored were his 22nd and 23rd in the 24 Liverpool-Everton matches in which he has played — a remarkable strike rate.

The result took Liverpool back to the top, a spot they last occupied briefly 11 days ago after thrashing Crystal Palace 9-0.

Everton dropped from first to fifth place as London clubs Chelsea, Millwall and Arsenal leap-frogged above them.

Chelsea, the surprise team of the season, sent Coventry from third to sixth with a 1-0 win at home, courtesy of a fifth minute Kevin Wilson goal.

Millwall beat bottom club Sheffield Wednesday 2-0 and Arsenal edged past Charlton 1-0, thanks to a second half Brian Marwood penalty.

Big-spending Manchester United crashed 5-1 to neighbours Manchester City in a game held up for eight minutes after part of the big crowd spilt on to the pitch.

United, who beat Millwall 5-1 a week ago, were without the leadership of England captain Bryan Robson, injured again.

His former international teammate Trevor Francis, now player-manager at Queen's Park Rangers, scored a hat-trick in the first

47 minutes in a fine 3-1 win at Aston Villa.

England striker Gary Lineker scored his first goal for his new club Tottenham but after leading Norwich 2-0, the Londoners were pulled back to 2-2.

Liverpool lead the table with 15 points from seven games, one ahead of Chelsea and Millwall and two clear of Arsenal and Everton.

The title favourites trailed to a 17th minute goal by Everton's Mike Newell, his sixth in six games. Pat Nevin's delightful chip outsmarted the visiting defence and Newell drove home from 10 metres.

John Barnes equalised 15 minutes later from six metres, heading home imperiously a pin-point centre from England colleague Peter Beardsley.

It was Beardsley who helped Rush to both his strikes in the 62nd and 63rd minutes.

First he found Barnes near goal. Barnes in turn delivered a ball to the near post where Rush got in front of Kevin Ratcliffe to score.

Then Beardsley fed Rush direct. The Welshman's shot looped off goalkeeper Neville Southall and inside the far post.

Northern Ireland's Wilson gave Chelsea their winner at Stamford Bridge, but the first division newcomers almost paid for their profligate finishing. Coventry's centre half Howard Clark missed an open goal seven minutes from time.

Marwood's 52nd minute penalty at Highbury was Arsenal's only reward in a game they dominated. It was the champions' fourth win in succession, but manager George Graham will be disappointed that Arsenal did not score more.

Millwall completed a miserable week for Sheffield Wednesday.

The lion's comfortable win ended a week that saw manager Ron Atkinson sued by former club West Bromwich, and hit by a transfer request from Northern Ireland fullback, Nigel Worthington.

Goals from Jimmy Carter (64th minute) and Tonyn Casciaro (73rd) settled the issue.

Manchester United slumped to their biggest defeat at the hands of City for 19 years.

David Oldfield started the rout in the 11th minute with a low shot. A minute later Trevor Morley made it 2-0, tapping home a centre in a crowded goalmouth.

City went further ahead when Ian Bishop headed home his first goal for the club in the 44th minute.

Mark Hughes pulled one back for United five minutes after the break but there was no holding rampant City.

David Oldfield scored his second in the 57th minute and Andy Hinchcliffe completed the devastation in the 61st minute.

## Lendl knocked out of Spanish Open

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Thirtieth-ranked Andres Gomez of Ecuador spoiled Ivan Lendl's honeymoon, upsetting the Czech star 1-6, 7-6 (7-5), 9-7 Friday in the semi-finals of the Court of God Tennis Tournament.

The top-ranked Lendl, who married Samantha Frankl on Sept. 15 in a private, Greenwich, Connecticut, ceremony, made several unforced errors in key games in the second and third sets.

He was favoured to clinch the \$500,000 clay-court tournament, which he won in 1981 and 1982.

Lendl started strong, breaking Gomez three times on his way to a 6-1 first set win.

But after losing his service early in the second set, Gomez broke back to tie 4-4 and hung on to force a tie-breaker after Lendl squandered three break points that would have had the Czech serving for the match.

Gomez won the tie-breaker 7-5 to take the set.

In the third set, Lendl lost three service games, the last of which allowed Gomez to take an 8-7 lead.

Serving for the match, Gomez quickly went up 40-0. Lendl spoiled two match points before the Ecuadorian smashed a cross-court winner.

## White man arrested in Budd's murder

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Police arrested a young white man in connection with the fatal shooting of Frank Budd, father of track star Zola Budd, officers said Saturday.

Police said they found a shotgun and pickup truck that were missing from Budd's farmhouse when they arrested the 24-year-old man Friday night in Welkom, 100 kilometres north of the farm near the central city of Bloemfontein.

Police did not identify the man, but the independent South African Press Association said he was expected to appear in court Monday on a charge of murder.

Newspapers reported Saturday that police had been seeking a young man who had been doing construction work on the farm, where Budd's body was found Friday.

Police said the 56-year-old retired printer had two shotgun wounds in the left side of his body, which was found in the bedroom of a house he built on the farm of a friend.

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## American, National baseball

NEW YORK (R) — Results of major league baseball games played on Saturday:

## American League

Minnesota Twins	5	Oakland Athletics	3
Cleveland Indians	4	California Angels	3
Wacleveland Indians	6	California Angels	2
Boston Red Sox	6	Detroit Tigers	1
Milwaukee Brewers	4	Toronto Blue Jays	1
Baltimore Orioles	10	New York Yankees	2
Seattle Mariners	8	Kansas City Royals	0
Texas Rangers	6	Chicago White Sox	4

## National League

St. Louis Cardinals	11	Philadelphia Phillies	5
Chicago Cubs	3	Pittsburgh Pirates	2
New York Mets	13	Montreal Expos	6
San Diego Padres	7	Los Angeles Dodgers	1
San Francisco Giants	3	Houston Astros	1
Cincinnati Reds	11	Atlanta Braves	5

## Navratilova sweeps into finals

DALLAS (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova swept into the finals of the Virginia Slims of Dallas Saturday, dispensing with no. 3 Manuela Maleeva 6-2, 6-3.

Navratilova beat Maleeva 6-0, 6-0, at the U.S. Open two weeks ago.

"I knew it wouldn't be love and love again. She was stepping into the hall and taking it on the rise," Navratilova said. "And she served very well. My first serve percentage was quite high. She has a very good return of serve, and I was able to keep her off balance, so that felt good."

In Sunday night's final, Navratilova will meet the winner of Saturday night's Monica Seles-Anne Smith match.

Maleeva said her cold was better Saturday than 24 hours earlier when she was drained after a quarterfinal win over Raffaella Reggi.

"I was running well today," Maleeva said. "I was serving well and hitting well the ball, and I felt good on the court." Maleeva hit three return winners and scored five points against serve with passing shots, but that weren't nearly enough to beat Navratilova, who won her 45th consecutive match in this tournament, dating back to 1979.

"You cannot give one little chance of a short ball. She comes in as soon as the ball is two inches shorter than it should be," Maleeva said.

## FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Consisting of three bedrooms, dining room, sitting room, salon, verandas, two bathrooms, washing room, maid room, telephone, separate central heating, very good furniture, independent entrance.

Pis. call tel. 667650, Mr. Ibrahim Al Khatib

## FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT IN WESTERN SHMEISANI

A third floor apartment of an area of 220 square metres, in a six-apartment building, consisting of three bedrooms, living room, sitting room, kitchen, three bathrooms, central heating, deluxe finishing. Location: Western Shmeisani, Abdul Halim Al Nimr Street, building No. 24.

Pis. call tel. 665711, 665583 Amman from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

## DOGS FOUND

Two dogs were found in Abdoun area. Please contact telephone 810600 for identification and collection.

## THE Daily Crossword by Virginia L. Yates

ACROSS

- Loathe
- Gaping
- Forest denizen
- Seemingly
- Two-wheeler
- Let fly
- Pep the top
- Flamboyant friend
- Can. prov.
- Change
- As expected
- Snare
- Humiliating
- His winner
- Sound open
- Sound like a hound
- Kind of joint
- Beer tin
- Spancer of old times
- Kent State state
- Dwelt
- Shing
- Base on balls
- Film bad guy
- Very in music

DOWN

- Green base
- Hot cross
- Old hat
- Johnson of early docu-
- mentaries
- Parachute
- Iran
- Weekend
- Two

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

- Similar
- Hollow stem
- Keen
- Spring
- blower
- Russ. co-op
- Clearing
- Made in the
- Appointment
- After
- Artful
- Salvador
- Blue
- Pappy carcase
- Chatter
- ruff
- Captain
- ruff
- Castle or
- road
- Second
- Sequestered
- Lighthearted
- Becker's suit
- is in
- Hard
- Farwell
- gesture
- Old fogies
- A Roosevelt
- Gov. knock
- 
- Up to now
- 
- Barred
- Hawaiian
- goose
- Garden posts
- 
- Buscase
- 
- Fast expense

# Nightly Entertainment in Al Rababa

Al Rababa, Amman Marriott's nightclub is currently featuring:

The Canadian Dance Troupe performing

"Dances from East to West"

starring the Canadian Eastern dancer Yasmine Ramsey

For reservations please call 660100.



AMMAN  
Marriott  
HOTEL

AMMAN · AMSTERDAM · ATHENS · CAIRO · HAMBURG · JERUSALEM · LONDON · PARIS · RYDGE · VIENNA

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Adel Imam in  
**AL MAWLED**  
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **ATTORUM** Tel: 675571

**DEADLY PURSUIT**

Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

**SPRING BREAK**

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



## Superpowers offer to stop Cambodia arms

MOSCOW (R) — Fresh violence erupted in Soviet Asia and nationalist unrest rumbled on in other republics despite Kremlin pledges to tackle ethnic injustices and clamp down on disturbances.

Three people died in street fighting involving several dozen young people armed with sticks, stones and metal bars in Semipalatinsk, eastern Kazakhstan.

Although ethnic disputes were not officially given as the reason for Thursday's flare-up, TASS news agency said the fighting was a settling of accounts between neighbourhoods.

From the names of the dead, all aged 16 or 17, it was clear the fighting had involved Kazakhs and Russians.

The trouble erupted the day after the Communist Party's Central Committee ended a two-day plenary meeting devoted to solving the country's ethnic problems.

Nearly 300 people have died in unrest over the past 18 months. The worst clashes have been over Nagorno-Karabakh, a territory claimed by the southern republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Unrest at Novy Uzen in Kazakhstan killed five people in June. More than 100 died in violence in neighbouring Uzbekistan and trouble spread to Kirgizia and Tajikistan.

The unrest is seen as the biggest threat to President Mikhail Gorbachev's political and social reforms. At last week's Central Committee meeting conservatives led by Politburo member

Yegor Ligachev repeatedly linked outbreaks of disorder with calls by reformers for radical change.

The committee approved a document extending the rights of the country's 15 republics and pledging to resolve the problems of minorities repressed by dictator Josef Stalin.

Gorbachev called for greater tolerance of national languages and traditions but promised tough measures to prevent violence.

He also denounced talks of secession as an "irresponsible game" a reference to some calls in the Baltic republics to turn their drive for autonomy from Moscow into outright independence.

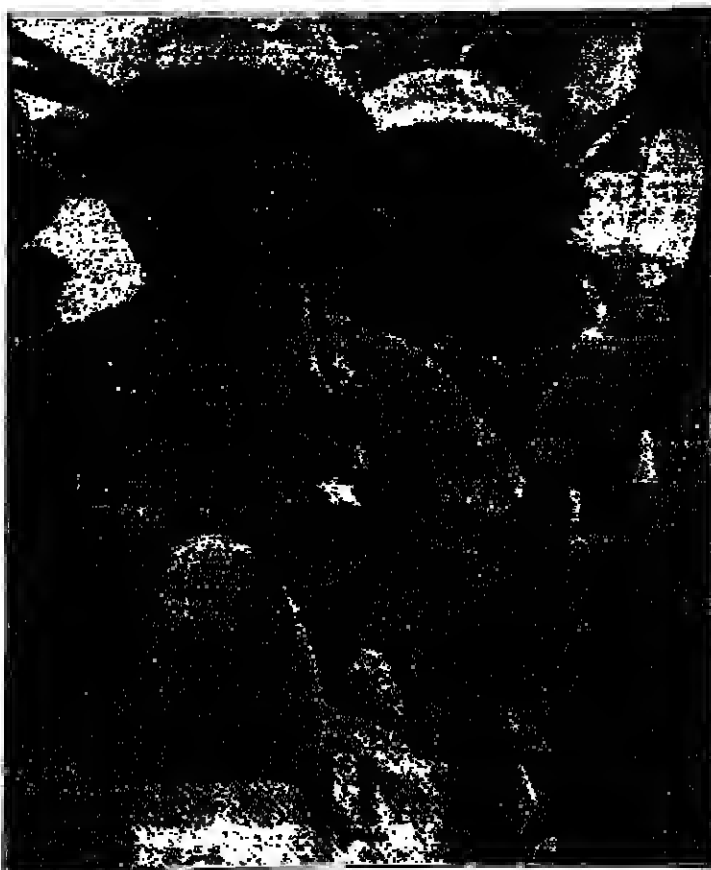
Other weekend developments in widely separated parts of the country suggested that the Central Committee's appeals had fallen on deaf ears.

In Lithuania, the local Communist Party leadership published a draft programme calling for separation from the Soviet party.

The republic's parliament in Vilnius formally adopted a commission report denouncing the Red Army's occupation in 1940 and declaring invalid a vote to join the Soviet Union.

Parliament in Azerbaijan passed a law declaring its territory indivisible, signalling it would not drop its claim to Nagorno-Karabakh, over which it was granted jurisdiction in 1923.

In Armenia, parliament ex-



Khmer Rouge troops smiling after they captured several Cambodian government camps near Pailin where fighting has intensified since the Vietnamese withdrawal began.

amined the severe shortages caused by the month-old blockade of rail traffic inspired by Azerbaijani workers pressing their case for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Soviet television quoted officials as saying that pasta, matches and rice were now unavailable, along with fuel, building materials and newsprint.

Soviet experts say serious economic problems are a prime fac-

tor behind the unrest, particularly in the Central Asian republics where officials say about one million people are in effect out of work.

Young people with little to do, rampant corruption during the tenure of now disgraced Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, and environmental damage have all contributed to the problems.

## Kremlin appeals fall on deaf ears

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union have said they would stop military aid to their respective Cambodian allies under a comprehensive peace agreement for the country.

But they hinted an early end to outside military aid was unlikely because attempts to reach a settlement had failed.

The pledge hinged on other outside parties — like China — also halting military assistance, they said.

The U.S.-Soviet position was outlined in a joint communiqué issued at the end of two days of talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Secretary of State James Baker.

"The sides declared their readiness to announce, together with other states, a moratorium on military assistance to all Cambodian factions as part of a comprehensive settlement," the statement said.

It ignored U.S. criticism of Moscow for continuing in back

Vietnam and its Cambodian surrogate, the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Vietnam is due to withdraw its troops from Cambodia by Tuesday after a 10-year occupation.

A Paris peace conference in July and August failed to reach a political settlement among the four Cambodian factions and civil war is expected to intensify there.

The United States supports two non-communist resistance groups headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann, who have been fighting to oust Vietnam and Hun Sen.

Before the talks at the secluded mountain resort of Jackson Hole, U.S. officials had strongly criticised Moscow and Peking for continuing to supply their Cambodian allies.

But they defended Washington's continued support for Sihanouk.

One official said if the aid — a small amount compared to the assistance provided by China and the Soviet Union — to Sihanouk ended, he would be "irrelevant"

in the search for a political solution in Cambodia.

China supports the Khmer Rouge, blamed for killing at least one million Cambodians when it ruled the country in the mid-1970s. The group is ostensibly allied with Sihanouk and Son Sann.

Aid agencies issue appeal

Eleven Western aid agencies Sunday urged the world community to take steps to prevent the brutal Khmer Rouge from returning to power as Vietnam stages a troop pullout.

The non-government aid agencies working in Phnom Penh voiced concern in a statement issued at a press conference.

"Our experience in Cambodia and our contact with Cambodians at all levels of society confirm that what Cambodians most fear is a return to the horrors of the Khmer Rouge regime," the statement said.

## Mercenaries shop for exotic weaponry, fighting fashions

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Platoons of mercenaries are shopping for exotic weaponry and fighting fashions, taking tutorials on world terrorism and swapping war stories at the 10th annual Soldiers of Fortune Convention.

At the start of the three-day gathering Friday, conventioners decked out in berets, flak jackets and camouflage pants sat around the pool of the Sahara hotel amid bikini-clad sunbathers. Others rubbed drank and gambled with civilians at the bars and slot machines.

An estimated 10,000 delegates could choose from seminars on such hot spots as Central America and Afghanistan, manufacturers' displays and a shooting competition at a desert range.

As usual, the big hit was the annual display of weapons, and apparel designed especially for those spoiling for a war.

"It features a lot of things your mother probably didn't want you to play with when you were growing up," said Bill Brooks, exhibition director at the convention, which is put on by Soldier of Fortune magazine of Boulder, Colorado.

The show, he said, is keyed to

the interests of the "professional adventurer."

Elsewhere in the United States, people are campaigning to rid the civilian populace of semi-automatic weapons. But in the hotel's main exhibition hall, convention-goers trooped to booths featuring the latest in rapid-fire armament.

Street sweeper sales of Atlanta touted a line of automatic weapons with a banner picturing an ominous weapons.

"The street sweeper — delivers 12 rounds in less than three seconds," the sign said.

Salesman Sherman Yarborough said the featured firearm is used mainly for police work and by Florida law agencies against drug smugglers and dealers.

Some street sweepers are used for "self protection," Yarborough said, noting it's "like any gun — each person has a different use for them."

Yarborough said his company sells only to licensed gun dealers. Several booths, including one set up by the National Rifle Association, urged attendees to fight efforts at gun control.

Posters, T-shirts and bumper stickers carried a similar theme.

One bumper sticker read: "War — mankind's oldest contact sport."

Camouflage was the uniform of the day. Several booths offered "camo" clothing including pants, jackets, hats — even bikini swimsuits and women's lingerie.

Outside, a motor home sported a camouflage paint job.

Among the hundreds of books offered for sale were a manual on the care and operation of the AK-47 assault rifle and a volume entitled, "armed and female: 12 million American women own guns. Should you?"

Some exhibitors were reluctant to talk to reporters. A salesman for Miami-based Intratec referred questions to his home office when asked about the company's .22-calibre Scorpion automatic pistol.

Cep Incorporated of Boulder, Colorado, was selling videos on such subjects as terrorist weapons and making various explosives.

Wayne's gun shop of Dublin, California, showcased a new bullet with enhanced destructive power, the promotional literature described it: "on impact, a pre-cut, precision forged metal projectile opens into whirlpool-creating, chopping blades."

## Quayle to emphasise Japanese partnership

TOKYO (AP) — U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle will stress partnership with Japan during official talks in Tokyo this week, U.S. officials said Sunday.

Quayle will tell Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other Japanese leaders in meetings Monday and Tuesday that the two nations should team up on a wide range of issues, including space exploration, anti-drug efforts, Third World debt and promoting democracy, a senior administration official said.

"The vice president believes

too much of the U.S.-Japan relationship has focused almost myopically on the trade issue," a U.S. official told reporters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

While resolving trade problems is important, "there is much more to the relationship than arguments over economic disputes," he said.

Quayle is expected to announce a new agreement with Japan on space cooperation during a visit to the Tsukuba Space

Centre east of Tokyo Monday, officials said.

The administration official said Quayle had found strong support for the U.S. military presence in Asia during his visit to South Korea, where 43,000 American troops are based, and in Japan, where more than 50,000 U.S. troops are stationed.

"The sense we've gotten from both the Koreans and the Japanese is the stability of defence relations in both cases," the official said.



Dan Quayle

## Filipinos have more guns than army

MANILA (R) — More than 8,000 guns have been smuggled into the Philippines this year and holders of unlicensed weapons wield more firepower than the country's army, a senator said Sunday.

Senator Heherson Alvarez expressed confidence the Congress would approve a bill he recently filed imposing a penalty of life imprisonment on gun smugglers to curb "this dangerous tide" of firearms.

"There is a lively commerce of guns in the country and they (the gun smugglers) talk of guns as though they are prized jewels. They even give out guns as gifts to friends," Alvarez said in a telephone interview.

Statistics published by the

Manila Times newspaper Sunday show there are a total of 189,000 unregistered guns in the country, of which 150,000 are held by ordinary citizens.

The rest are in the hands of Communist rebels, Muslim separatists and criminal syndicates, the newspaper said, quoting the military.

Alvarez said the figures indicated unauthorised persons held more guns combined than President Corason Aquino's regular army, estimated at 167,000 men.

Alvarez, a member of Aquino's ruling coalition, filed the bill after a scandal broke out over the alleged involvement of a congressman in the smuggling of more than 300 guns from the United States earlier this month.

The legislator, Nicanor de Guzman, Jr., has been suspended from the Congress and Friday was charged with illegal possession of firearms, a crime punishable by a maximum 12 years imprisonment. A judge set bail at 180,000 pesos (\$8,300).

The Times statistics put the number of licensed weapons in the country this year at 453,360, compared with 374,000 in 1985, the last year it deposited President Ferdinand Marcos's rule.

The weapons are held by government security officials, authorised private security agencies and individuals.

The Times said the annual increase of six per cent in the number of licensed firearms since Aquino took office in 1986 was

steeper than in the last decade of the Marcos presidency, when the rate of increase was 3.7 per cent.

"This is because there is more democratic elbow room now than before," Alvarez said. "Also, well-to-do people now seem to find it respectable to have guns."

The military has blamed the proliferation of guns, licensed or unlicensed, for increased criminality, with newspapers reporting bank robberies, street hold-ups and murder almost every day.

The volume of major crimes in Manila, the capital, has almost doubled this year to an average of 31 crimes per 100,000 population, compared with the 1986 average of 16 crimes per 100,000 population, police said.

## Escobar — Colombia's modern-day Robin Hood?

Editor's note: The picture most people have of Pablo Escobar is of a ruthless purveyor of cocaine who thinks nothing of killing or terrorising anyone who hurts business. But to the thousands he rescued from poverty, Escobar is a godsend.

By Susana Hayward  
The Associated Press

MEDELLIN, Colombia — Five years ago, Fabio Gil lived in a cardboard shack at a city dump. Today, Gil and his family share a two-bedroom home atop a mountain overlooking scenic Medellin.

"These guys came to the dump one day. We didn't know who they were. One of them said 'I'm Pablo Escobar. I'm going to help you,'" said Gil, sitting on a red plastic couch in his red brick home in the barrio, or neighbourhood, named after Escobar, a reputed top cocaine trafficker.

"He told us 'I bought this land for you.' He built us houses and he said it was for us to live decently in society," said Gil, 43, who often works in construction. "But he advised us not to get involved in crime, not to steal, not to become drug addicts."

That is how Gil and 5,000 other people were helped by the man reputed to be the richest, most wanted and most violent of Colombia's powerful drug barons. Escobar, believed to be 41, is said to be number one in the Medellin drug cartel, which supplies a vast amount of the cocaine sold on U.S. streets.

Although modest, the 500 brick homes built in rows on a mountain above the sprawling metropolis of Medellin, the cocaine capital of the world, are solid and neat. They are adorned with roses, statues of the Virgin Mary and posters of white kittens and nude women.

Two or three families share one house. The homes each have two bedrooms, a living room, bathroom, kitchen and patio. In many, there are TV sets, stereos, refrigerators and even

washing machines.

Cumbias and salsa music resound from the windows. Dogs bark and children play tag.

"It's a long way from the filth and the smell of the municipal dump where thousands in makeshift homes survive by scavenging other people's garbage."

"We lived in such subhuman conditions," Gil said. "And then this person comes along and helps us. Well, of course we're going to be grateful."

In the neighbourhood of La Milagrosa (Spanish for the miraculous one), nestled beneath the Barrio Escobar, many more grateful.

Escobar is credited with providing that suburb with electricity, drinking water, traffic lights, a soccer field and a sports centre.

As in many poor neighbourhoods in Medellin, a city of two million people, Escobar is regarded as a sort of latter-day Robin Hood. He's El Patrón, a godfather who came to the rescue when others turned their backs.

It has nothing to do with cocaine or assassinations. "He's a man we love a lot," Gil said. "If we have a roof over our heads, it's because of him. It's something the government hasn't done."

The government is searching for Escobar and for other leading drug figures. But it is evident that residents of Escobar Barrio wouldn't provide any information that would hurt Escobar.

Children refer to Escobar, who has been a fugitive since a government crackdown on the country's cocaine kingpins started Aug. 18, as "Pappa Escobar" and "Don Pablo."

"Look here," says 13-year-old Juan Dario Mejia. "Before

I couldn't go to school because everything my father and mother earned went to pay rent and food. Don Pablo came and gave us the house, and now my brother and I go to school."

Dario's friend, 12-year-old Jaime Elias, nods.

"I don't know why they look for that man Escobar. He has nothing to do with me because I don't even know him," Jaime said. "The only thing I know is he's helped poor people like us. My father and his friends say he is a good man, with a good heart."

The people of the barrio think Escobar, the man the weekly newsmagazine Semana nominated "the worst assassin in the history of Colombia," is caught in an unfortunate predicament.

Gil and other barrio residents blame it on the United States.

"This country is totally submissive to the United States, and our government is angry at those who really help us," said Gil. "The way I see it, if the United States didn't consume drugs, there wouldn't be drug traffickers. It's something to analyse."

The neighbourhood has launched a petition drive to urge the government to open a dialogue with the traffickers, a move the cartels have proposed to President Virgilio Barco.

Barco declared war on the cartels after the murder Aug. 18 of Senator Luis Carlos Galan, one of the most popular presidential candidates this South American republic ever had.

Barco vowed to extradite Escobar, if he's caught, to the United States, where he is wanted for the murder of drug enforcement administration informant Barry Seal. Escobar heads the United States "dirty dozen" list of Colombians wanted on cocaine trafficking charges.

## COLUMN

### Chimneys attract Swedish tourist

BELLEVILLE, Illinois (AP) — Most foreign visitors go sight-seeing, checking out things like the grand Canyon or historical sites. But Andre Borjesson is filling his time looking inside chimneys.

Borjesson is filling his time looking inside chimneys. He is a chimney sweep, touring the United States for the Swedish Chimney Sweep Guild to learn more about his profession and to share Swedish techniques and tools.

"I'm like a spy here, trying to see what we can learn," he joked. In the Belleville area, he lives and works with Hugh Maine, owner of Maine Chimney Sweep. "We've learned a lot more from this visit than the Swedes have learned from us," Maine said.

Chimney sweeping is an honoured profession in Sweden, where wood-stoves are widely used to combat the long winters.

Sweden, where wood-stoves are widely used to combat the long winters.

### Temptations singer seeks drug treatment

DETROIT (AP) — David Ruffin, former lead singer for the group Temptations, is asking to enter a drug-treatment centre rather than go to jail for violating probation on a drug charge. "He recognised the benefits... it beats jail," Ruffin's attorney, Jeff Collins, said in a court hearing Tuesday.

"Any jail period, even five minutes, would be unjust. He needs help, not jail," Collins said. Ruffin, who had previously denied having a drug problem, asked Judge John O'Brien to order him into a treatment programme.

The 48-year-old singer was charged with violating a two-year probation imposed after he was convicted in May 1988 of a misdemeanor for possessing cocaine. Probation officials say he was not reporting or keeping appointments for treatment.

### Town marks Nixon's birthday

YORBA LINDA, California (AP) — The birthday of former President Richard Nixon is now an official day of rest for municipal workers in the city of his birth. The city council voted unanimously Tuesday night to make Jan. 9 a holiday for about 100 employees in the city's 48 kilometres from Los Angeles.

"We're not here to judge history, we're here to recognise it," said Mayor Henry W. Wedaa. Nixon, born in a Yorba Linda farmhouse in 1913, said he's pleased "with the honour, Wedaa reported. The proposal to make the date a holiday was met warmly. Wedaa said, despite Nixon's 1974 resignation in the Watergate political scandal, "Many of us have felt it was time for a holiday for President Nixon, and the time has come," Wedaa said.

### Actress sick of playing mothers

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (AP) — Singer-actress Laine Kazan says she is tired of playing mothers on television and film and fears that she is being typecast. The 49-year-old Kazan, appearing at a casino this weekend, received a New York drama critic's Golden Globe award in 1982 for her Jewish mother role in the film "My Favourite Year." In 1987, she was nominated for Emmy for playing the mother of comedian Howie Mandel on the television show "St. Elsevier." And last year, she was in "Beaches," playing the mother of Bette Midler.

"I have to turn a lot of stuff down, and it's really getting me down," Kazan said. "I really don't want to play another Jewish mother even though I do it well. 'Now I want to do mature leading lady roles,' Kazan said.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather		
AMSTERDAM	13	55	19	66	Cloudy
ATHENS	17	59	28	82	Clear
BAHRAIN	28	78	33	91	Clear
BANGKOK	24	75	32	90	Clear
Buenos Aires	10	50	19	66	Clear
Cairo	19	66	32	90	Clear
CHICAGO	22	72	32	90	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	13	55	21	70	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	17	63	12	54	Cloudy
GENEVA	13	55	19	64	Cloudy
HONG KONG	28	82	30	86	Clear
ISTANBUL	17	63	25	77	Clear
LONDON	15	59	21	70	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	62	29	83	Cloudy
MADRID	13	55	20	68	Clear
MEXICO	20	62	45	113	Clear
MONTREAL	06	43	26	84	Cloudy
MOSCOW	05	41	21	70	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	28	79	32	90	Clear
NEW YORK	08	45	27	81	Clear
PARIS	06	50	20	68	Clear
ROME	13	55	29	84	Clear
SYDNEY	15	59	22	72	Clear
TOKYO	16	60	24	75	Clear
VIENNA	14	57	22	72	Cloudy

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Plane explodes; 11 feared killed

NEW DELHI (AP) — A twin-engine plane exploded and tumbled into a dam in southern India and all 11 people aboard were feared dead, airline officials said Sunday. Officials of the domestic carrier Vayudoot said the Dornier aircraft exploded Saturday night about half an hour after takeoff from Poona airport and fell into the Unai Dam on the Bhima River, about 140 kilometres away. Police and investigators ruled out any chances of survivors among the eight passengers and three crew members on the hour-long flight in Hyderabad. The names of the victims were not released, but the airline said all aboard were Indian.

### Pravda suffers another set-back

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party daily Pravda, forced to apologise for calling leading Soviet reformers and public hero Boris Yeltsin a hard-drinking spendthrift, is under fire again — this time from its readers. Figures released by Soviet Television at the weekend showed next year's subscriptions for the conservative newspaper, the main mouthpiece for the ruling party, running at just over a third of this year's levels. The only major newspaper to suffer a bigger fall in popularity was Sovetskaya Rossiya, whose editorial line has appeared even more traditionalist than Pravda. According to the figures, subscriptions for virtually all newspapers and magazines are running well below this year's levels. An exception is the weekly Semya, subscriptions for which are already up almost 50 per cent, apparently helped by its reprinting extracts from a French sex encyclopaedia for children. Subscriptions play a key part in sales of most publications, with many people keen to avoid long queues at kiosks.

### Pope shakes hands with gangsters

VOLTERRA, Italy (R) — Pope John Paul shook hands with some of Italy's most hardened Mafia gangsters Saturday during a visit to a top-security jail. The Pope, who is on three-day visit to Tuscany, met the men in a forbidding hilltop fortress built by the Medici family in the 15th century and converted into a jail in 1818. Many of the inmates of Pope greeted in a courtyard surrounded by medieval turrets were jailed for serious mafia crimes, including murder, prison officials said. Some stood unmoved but applauded politely as the white-robed pontiff walked among them. Others

succumbed to emotion despite the presence of their hardened cellmates and bent to kiss the papal ring.

### Vandals wreck house built for Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The luxurious home built for jailed black leader Nelson Mandela by his wife has been ransacked by thieves and vandals, newspapers reported Sunday. City Press, the country's largest-circulation newspaper for blacks, said tiles, ceilings and floors had been ripped away and plumbing fixtures had been removed. It estimated the cost of the damage of 100,000 rand (\$40,000). The house in Soweto has stood unoccupied since its completion two years ago, when